

SitetoSee

MUST-SEE WEB PICK OF THE QUARTER

HOUSING:

JOB OPENINGS: FIND FACILITY DIRECTOR OPENINGS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA!

Facility Director positions were previously referred to as "house mom" or house director."

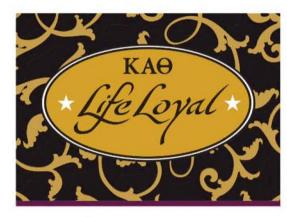


https://housing.kappaalphatheta.org/facilityresources/jobopenings

LIFE LOYAL:

WHO IN YOUR COLLEGE CHAPTER HAS JOINED LIFE LOYAL?

FIND OUT HERE!



http://www.thetalifeloyal.org/memberdirectory.cfm

FRATERNITY:

HELP US FIND LOST THETAS FROM YOUR CHAPTER!

WHEN YOU LOG IN TO THE SITE, YOU CAN SEE A LIST OF WOMEN FROM YOUR COLLEGE CHAPTER WHO ARE CURRENTLY LISTED AS "LOST" IN THE FRATERNITY DATABASE.

At the same time, you can see if you are on the list! Send all updates to info@kappaalphatheta.org.



http://www.kappaalphatheta.org/alumnae/reconnectwiththeta/find_lost_thetas.cfm

COMING SOON ... WATCH FOR THE NEW GC 2012 SITE REGISTER • READ LEGISLATION • SEE WHO'S COMING • SEE HISTORY

Find us; friend us; follow us!









The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine (ISSN 0746-3529) is published quarterly by Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity for Women, 8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Postmaster: send address changes to The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine, 8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Periodical-class postage paid at Indianapolis, IN, and additional mailing offices. Yearly subscription \$1. Printed in the United States.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Elizabeth Sierk Corridan, BO/Iowa

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS/EDITOR

Elizabeth Appel Rinck, F/Butler

ART DIRECTOR

Maureen Fahey Bowers, ΔΣ/Ball State

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Laura Kassenbrock Stelsel, F/Butler Lisa Gebken Thibault, El/Westminster

2010-12 GRAND COUNCIL FRATERNITY PRESIDENT

Amy Hayner Kates, AΦ/Tulane

FRATERNITY VICE-PRESIDENTS

Laura Ware Doerre, ΔΞ/North Carolina April Pinkston DuPree, ZA/Charleston Paige Bendel Ellerman, Γl/Kentucky Julie Ruffolo Gilpin, A/DePauw Suzanne Graf McLemore, ΔΠ/Tennessee Mandy Burgett Wushinske, ZΣ/Ohio Northern

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Kathleen Bennett Tonkel, H/Michigan

FRATERNITY HEADQUARTERS

8740 Founders Road Indianapolis, IN 46268-1300

- P 317.876.1870 1.800.526.1870
- F 317.876.1925
- E info@kappaalphatheta.org www.kappaalphatheta.org

SEND COPY & CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Elizabeth Rinck, Editor KAO Fraternity Headquarters, 317.876.8593 or 888.526.1870, ext. 150 lrinck@kappaalphatheta.org

SEND NOTICES OF DEATHS TO:

KAO Fraternity Headquarters, Attn.: Membership Coordinator 317.876.8593 or 888.526.1870, ext. 107 gbrown@kappaalphatheta.org

SEND NOTICES OF ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

KAO Fraternity Headquarters, Attn.: Data Entry 317.876.8593 or 888.526.1870, ext. 323 info@kappaalphatheta.org

ADVERTISING DEADLINES:

Autumn Aug. 1 Winter Oct. 23 Spring Jan. 31 Summer May 1

Kappa Alpha Theta Fratemity, founded at Indiana Asbury College (DePauw University), Greencastle, Indiana, on January 27, 1870, is the first Greek-letter fratemity known among women.

"Kappa Alpha Theta," "Theta," its coat of arms, and its badges are registered trademarks of Kappa Alpha Theta

© 2011 Kappa Alpha Theta Fratemity



YOUR THETA MAGAZINE

BY LIZ APPEL RINCK, I/BUTLER, EDITOR

IF THREE IS A CHARM, AS THE SAYING GOES, YOU HOLD IN YOUR HANDS A CHARMED ISSUE OF THE THETA MAGAZINE.

(Of course, as your editor, I hope you find all issues of our magazine charming!) This issue is special, though, because it represents the third in a series of design and format changes that were initiated in the fall of 2009.

The first of these changes occurred with the autumn 2009 issue: a complete magazine makeover, with a fresh nameplate, a new masthead, and an updated page design. Our goal in making these changes was threefold. (There's that number three again.) We wanted to make greater use of photographs, to be more visually oriented in our presentation; we wanted to acknowledge and use the wealth of information available on the Theta website by directing those who want more information to a specific area of our website or another online resource; we wanted to promote Theta's greatest asset—her members—by showcasing them in a variety of story formats.

Since then, we've made a series of "tweaks" to our original redesign, incorporating quite a few ideas suggested by readers!

The Summer 2011 issue brought our next change: a larger-sized magazine ... in fact, our new size is almost a full inch wider. This new format affords greater design flexibility and also increases the visibility of our publication. Since the Theta magazine isn't sold from newsstands, visibility might seem like a nonsensical concern. But we know that you, dear reader, have many demands on your time and attention, and we want to stand out from the piles of catalogs, books, and other magazines that are clamoring for you to read them.

And now we have the Winter 2011-12 edition. Those of you who keep track of such things will notice that it is, again, larger than past issues. Larger not in dimension, but in number of pages. Instead of our usual 32 pages, this issue comprises 36. Additionally, there has been a change in our distribution list. The Theta Life Loval program, introduced to the general membership in the summer of 2010, includes a schedule for gradually limiting the distribution of the Theta magazine, and that process begins with this issue. If you are reading these words in print and not online, it is because you are a Life Loyal Theta, an undergraduate or new member of Theta, a recent graduate, a current Fraternity officer or former Grand Council member, a member of an alumnae chapter or an alumna who has paid her per capita dues directly to the Fraternity, or a college chapter advisor or member of a facility corporation board. The Fraternity greatly appreciates your devotion and support, and one acknowledgment of that is an enhanced printed magazine.

Having a few additional pages gives us the opportunity to bring you some additional feature stories. On page 20, you can read the story of Ingrid Nunez, Iota/Cornell, whose battle with an unusual form of cancer has redefined sisterhood for her chapter. On page 30, you can learn about I Am a Theta, a new main section on Theta's website that provides a forum for Thetas to share their stories of lifetime membership and—in the sharing of those stories—nurtures connections to our Fraternity. And on page 31, you can be inspired by one Theta's commitment to becoming a courtappointed special advocate, her dedication to CASA, and her care for her CASA kids. Of course, we are also pleased to publish our usual profile of an accomplished Theta, portrait of a Theta personifying True Promise, and In Her Own Words Q&A.

We're busily planning future enhancements and improvements to our magazine. (Like so many things, it never reaches a truly finished state.) We hope we can continue to be a publication that stands out from the many available to you, not because of dimensions or for sentimental reasons but because we offer an experience that you value and enjoy. ◊

ON THE COVER: From grade-school classrooms to MIT's Charm School to inspirational media, Dhaya Lakshminarayanan is an expert in laughing matters.

YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW, KAPPA ALPHA THETA EXISTS TO NUR-TURE EACH MEMBER THROUGHOUT HER COLLEGE AND ALUMNAE EXPERIENCE AND TO OFFER LIFELONG OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND MORAL GROWTH AS SHE MEETS THE HIGHER AND BROADER DEMANDS OF MATURE LIFE.

CONTENTS

IN THIS

WINTER 2011-12

FEATURES

4 FOUNDERS DAY & FRIENDSHIP FUND MESSAGE

Through the Friendship Fund, we live our ritual.

12 TWO CHAPTERS, MANY MEMORIES Kites fly high over two college campuses.



20 LINKED HEART TO HEART

Inspired by their sister, members of Iota/Cornell promote lung cancer awareness.

22 FUNNY BUSINESS

From MIT to "nerd comedy," a Theta takes the stage.



28 ADVANCING SORORITY **TOGETHER**

One of our own is honored by the National Panhellenic Conference.

30 I AM A THETA Share the story of Theta through the stories of our members.



31 "PROVE ME WRONG" Volunteering for CASA has changed the way this Theta looks at the world.

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 SITE TO SEE
- 5 THETA TIMES
- CORRESPONDENCE
- 7 THETA FOUNDATION
- 8 **SNAPSHOTS**
- 14 **GRAND CONVENTION 2012**
- 18 IN HER OWN WORDS
- WOMEN OF TRUE PROMISE 19
- THROUGH THE YEARS 21
- 26 KAO LIFE LOYAL
- 32 **PLAN OF ASPIRATIONS** (REVISTED)
- 33 CONNECTIONS/ IN THE NEXT ISSUE
- IN MEMORIAM 35

Notice: Because Kappa Alpha Theta is not an officially recognized student group at Harvard or Santa Clara University, these schools prohibit using "Harvard" or "Santa Clara" in any published reference to our Zeta Xi or Eta Lambda Chapter.

We regret that on page 21 of the Autumn issue, the Delta Xi Chapter at North Carolina was erroneously refered to as the Delta Zeta Chapter.



FOUNDERS DAY AND FRIENDSHIP FUND **MESSAGE 2012**

realize that not only do I have my chapter sisters to lean on, but I have women across the world-who don't even know me-who I can lean on. I realize that Theta as a whole is bigger than I thought possible."

This heartfelt message expresses the essence of Kappa Alpha Theta's Friendship Fund. Created in 1926, it is based on a beautiful, timeless idea—sisters reaching out to sisters. The Friendship Fund provides gifts to Thetas experiencing extreme financial hardship due to serious or terminal illness, job loss, natural disaster, and other devastating occurrences. It is during such times that Thetas do what we do best: support and provide for one another.

Traditionally, we have encouraged Friendship Fund contributions on Founders Day, the day we commemorate four young women at Indiana Asbury and their commitment to the widest influence for good

and the moral code of love. The suggested donation is \$1 for every year of membership. Another very important tradition is the secrecy surrounding the giving of Friendship Fund gifts. Two members write on the behalf of a sister, they remain anonymous, and all records are confidential.

The Friendship Fund demonstrates in a tangible way the care, love, and support of our Fraternity, and it has made all the difference to hundreds of Thetas. Just as drops of water, when adhering closely together, have the strength to move mountains, so do Thetas, when working together, have the strength to change lives.

This Founders Day, let us all remember what a valuable force Theta sisterhood is in our own lives and the lives of others. Through the Friendship Fund, let us demonstrate that our ritual has relevance and resonance, that it is not just words we say but the way we live

GIFTS TO THE FRIENDSHIP FUND

Checks made out to Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity with "Friendship Fund" written on the memo line may be mailed

Kappa Alpha Theta 8740 Founders Rd. Indianapolis, IN 46268 attn.: Friendship Fund

Donations to the Fraternity are not tax-deductible.

GIFTS FROM THE FRIENDSHIP FUND

Two members write to the Fraternity on behalf of a sister; a gift from the Friendship Fund is not sought by a Theta herself. The requesters remain anonymous, and all records are confidential.

For more information about requesting help from the Friendship Fund for a Theta sister, please contact Angela Merk: (amerk@kappaalphatheta.org; 888-526-1870, ext. 140).

Lovally.

Amy Hayner Kates, AΦ/Tulane Fraternity President



BZ/Oklahoma State alumnae on campus.

theta.org/

SISTERS SUPPORTING SISTERS

Kappa Alpha Theta has embarked on an innovative mental health initiative-Sisters Supporting Sisters-to increase the dialogue concerning and support for all aspects of mental health. Through the generous support of Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation, Sisters



SISTERS SUPPORTING SISTERS"

Mental Health Initiative by Kappa Alpha Theta

Supporting Sisters has joined with AllOneHealth. The counselors at the AllOneHealth telephone counseling service—Talk One-2-One-can work with college Thetas to address all mental health issues, including but not limited to stress, anxiety, cutting, depression, substance abuse, eating disorders, and personal relationships.

Talk One-2-One offers the following tips to alleviate tension and stress.

- Think about what's truly meaningful in your life, and make that your central focus. Meaningful connections and activities are great antidotes to stress.
- Plan ahead for times that may be difficult for
- Make yourself a priority and give yourself the gift of health. Exercise, fresh air, healthy eating and adequate rest are gifts money cannot

REUNIONS ANNOUNCED

 Φ /PACIFIC. The new member class initiated in March 1970 will celebrate 40 years since our graduation. "The Timeless 21" will gather at the UOP reunion weekend, June 22-24, 2012. We'd also like to invite Theta sisters who pledged in 1968-71 to join us as we stay in the chapter facility and renew our Theta bonds. Contact Sally Butterbaugh Alvino, alvino@aol.com.

 $B\Omega$ /COLORADO COLLEGE. A celebration of our 80th year at the college will be held October 12 - 14, 2012, during homecoming weekend. All Beta Omegas are encouraged to contact their sisters and save the dates. Advisers to the chapter are also encouraged to come! For more information, contact Janet Paine Peters, billjanet@alumni.coloradocollege.edu.

ΔΘ/FLORIDA. Please join us in a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Delta Theta Chapter, the weekend of February 1, 2012. Friday hospitality gathering at the Paramount Plaza Hotel, Saturday open house and lunch at the Delta Theta facility, Saturday dinner at the Paramount Plaza Hotel. Paid reservations due by February 1. Contact Louise Root Bearss, Louise.Bearss@gmail.com, or Pam Williams LaCrosse, Pamlacr@aol.com.

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

The following Fraternity staff members celebrated milestone employment anniversaries in 2011.

5 Years

Chris Sego Finley, AX/Purdue Angela Chamness Merk, Γ/Butler

20 Years

Gretchen Halbin Brown, Alpha Chi Omega Lorie Larson Land, AX/Purdue

NUMBER ONE IN SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to our college chapters that were number one in scholarship on their campus during the spring 2011 semester!

B/Indiana *	ΓN/N. Dakota State *
Γ/Butler	ΓT/Tulsa *
K/Kansas *	ΓX/Fresno State *
Γ∆/Ohio Wesleyan	ΔZ/Emory
O/USC	Φ ^Δ /Stanford *
Π/Albion	EI/Westminster *
Φ/Pacific *	ET/Yale *
AM/Missouri	EY/Columbia *
AO/Oklahoma *	ZM/MIT *
AP/South Dakota *	ZY/UT Dallas *
AΣ/Washington State *	HI/San Diego *
BΠ/Michigan State *	HO/North Florida *
ΓΘ/Carnegie Mellon *	HP/James Madison

^{*} Repeated number one in scholarship

LICENSED VENDORS

are assured a quality product at a competitive price, with a portion of the proceeds directly benefitting Kappa Alpha Theta programs. These vendors have been given permission to use our insignia (Greek letters, name, coat-of-arms, etc.) and are required to produce top-quality products. So by purchasing from a licensed vendor, you also support the values and identity of our Fraternity. To access a list of Theta's current vendors, visit www.kappaalphatheta.org > Theta Market Place > Greeklicensing.com.

PLANNING A REUNION?

Place a reunion notice in The Magazine and on the Theta website. Mail a brief notice to Reunions, The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine, 8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268, and email webmaster@kappaalphatheta.org.

Notices for reunions to be held May through July must be received by January 31; for August through October, received by April 11; for November through January, received by July 11; and for February through April, by October 23.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

This Statement of Ownership, Management, Circulation must be published yearly in order to maintain The Magazine's mailing classification. ◊

When you purchase from a licensed vendor, you

online! Complete the online **REUNIONS** Learn about upcoming theta.org/alumnae/events/ reunions.

and		

	2 Publisher Marder	uester Publication
Kappa Alpha These Magi	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	4 10.11.11
Chica Fernanco	5. Number of Insure Publishers Jersusty	6. Armai Subscriptor Phos
Quarterly	- 4	\$ 1.00
Yappa Alpha Yheel, Fin	promp pieces of ments may are \$10 mly	his Tinch
Indianage us (marien)		345, \$55, 1950
Kappa Bights Theta. 12	w. Olive or President Plant protect	
In dual hand	up recourse April T	warmer have ?
E. Full Names and Complete Visibing Addresses, of Publisher, Edit	for, and Managing Editor (To not Basel 1984)	
Engle Alpha Yhein, 8.	nie Vernoters Cot	Every ever don't
Editor (Name and sampling making address)		
Brizghanh A. Rich, Ko	opper Algha Thuba, 97	do Foundate
Zestianagotia, 30 No.	261-1100	
Storaging Editor (Name and somplets making address)		
w/a		
5). Once at (Disput terms street, if the publication is recently a concern and addresses of all asymbolithms onclose a fielding it names and addresses of the trafficion's concern. If several its a season and addresses of the trafficion's concern. If one addresses a publication is published as a concern.	persent or cross of the total action of allers. If the low personnels or other entrepresented from old the carry	
E-ID Name.	Complete Matting Addrson	
Mappa Ripton White		DO HERE'S
		211 10000 100
Construction of the last reco	s Charles at	
To, Services (providences, storpageway, and color Sensatio required in formation of these of free Amende of Sensition (Sellings).	950	
To, Services (providences, storpageway, and color Sensatio required in formation of these of free Amende of Sensition (Sellings).	950	_
To, Services (providences, storpageway, and color Sensatio required in formation of these of free Amende of Sensition (Sellings).	950	
To, Services (providences, storpageway, and color Sensatio required in formation of these of free Amende of Sensition (Sellings).	950	
To, Services (providences, storpageway, and color Sensatio required in formation of these of free Amende of Sensition (Sellings).	950	
To, Services (providences, storpageway, and color Sensatio required in formation of these of free Amende of Sensition (Sellings).	950	
To, Services (providences, storpageway, and color Sensatio required in formation of these of free Amende of Sensition (Sellings).	950	
Security and the security of t	Somptime Matting Additions Somptime Matting Additions Sometime Matting Additions South Toward of Interest Addition (Climate Antice)	
in the property of the proper	Somptime Matting Additions Somptime Matting Additions Sometime Matting Additions South Toward of Interest Addition (Climate Antice)	

Kappa Alpha Thaba Magazine			Service C 2011	
Sec. 2.	-	entre proportion les entre les les estables de la constant de la c	Average No. Gopine Gook Items Studies Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Bingle base Published Neurost In Plins Date
a Smithest	680	Depletes (filled general comple	98,190	99,480
D. Find Graduite dy mar solf Outside the Med	m	Maked Charde-County Fired Dubscriptions (Subscriptions) (TO Firet 284-0) States pleaf continues above home- nal case, advanturally prival copies, and anchorage continues	95,482	30,733
	9	Melled In-County-Pold Subscriptions Selection PS Fulfil 2011 closeleds Just distribution altered northlations, advantages, and accordances, polar separat	-	~
	a	Plact Statistics Outside the Math Industry Side. Through Strainers and Contains, Street remains, Countain Sales, and Other Place Statistical Science, Sci Statistics Sci Statistics Sci Statistics Sci Statistics Sci Statis	1,455	1,213
	(6)	Paid Distriction to Other Classes of Wall Through the URFS only Fold Costs MAPE	-	-
s. Not her b	-	then (Short of 15th (15, 15), 15), 45), and 340	95,800	81,546
d Ensor Tommal rate Destruction (for their and Commis for Med)	cti	From at Newtonia Bulle Exclude County Copies Installed un PS Form 2041	-	-
	(0)	Place or March of Rate In-County Copies Instituted at IT's Facts 2011	-	-
	a	Free or Movimed Rate, Copine Market at Other Classes, Through Par USP'S true, First Class MelS	-	-
	(4)	Conc. or Stumbour State, Quantumber Country, the stand.	3,1915	323
, Indfan	er bu	erenal Plants Distribution (Sees of 15td (S), (S), (S) and (15)	151011	313
. Shall Shethwiter (Sum of 1th; and 1th)		(Semel tits and tits)	95,008	50,313
6. Copins not Distributed (line Instructions in Publishers #4 (https://doi.		Dutal Cline Instructions to Philodeless RV (page RX)	163	13.1
. Statistics of 12 entire		Yerfyl .	98,190	90,4450
Pleaset Pa	es el ty	totiones total	119.3 70	94.59
B, total	Add.	and a green principal of the second of the s		Publication and required.
P.16	30			10.11.11

WRITE TO US!

Do you have a comment about an article in this or any other issue of The Magazine? Do you know an accomplished Theta who would be a good subject for a profile article? Do you have a Theta issue on your mind?

Then let us hear from you! We are pleased to receive letters from our readers; we value your input. Correspondence by regular mail or email may be sent to the editor. (Addresses are listed on page 2.)

WHAT'S NEW?

Is there some exciting news about yourself or your chapter that you'd like to share with other Thetas? Let us know! A submission form may be found in The Magazine area of the Theta website, or you may send items via email or snail mail to the editor. Addresses are listed on page 2. Please include your name and chapter of affiliation with each submission.

THE MAGAZINE ONLINE

Receive email notification when The Magazine is posted Update Magazine Preferences

reunions at www.kappaalpha-

DISASTER RELIEF

Because I lack physical strength or technical knowledge, I usually stay out of the way when a natural disaster strikes. A group of Theta sisters recently showed me that even the smallest effort can make a huge difference.

On April 28, 2011, the day after the devastating tornado hit Tuscaloosa, Ala., my husband and I drove from our home in Huntsville to see what we could recover from our son's house, which had been in the path of a tornado. Most of the state was without power from the storms, so there were no gas stations or fast food restaurants open. I parked over a mile from my son's house, as traffic was gridlocked in the area. On my walk toward his house, I was met by a group of about six Thetas (as evidenced by their T-shirts) who had taken a loaf of bread, made it into peanut butter sandwiches, and returned the sandwiches to the loaf bag. They were handing out sandwiches as they walked, and I was a recipient. That sandwich sustained me through many hours of sorting debris and searching for usable items to salvage. I realized that night that I would never have had the energy to work all day without that peanut butter sandwich.

It warmed my heart to see members of the Delta Omicron Chapter helping their neighbors during a difficult time.

DEBBIE DORRIS JOYNER ΔO/ALABAMA



MAGAZINE KUDOS

I just had an opportunity to review the Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine. The format looks new to me, I really like it-easy to read and great use of photos. There are lots of things to look at; it's well done. My hats off to the editorial team-nice job!

STEVE LATOUR, ALPHA SIGMA PHI PRESIDENT, FRATERNITY COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

TRUE ASPIRATIONS

"Theta Master Class" (Summer 2011) started out as such a great article. I loved Amy Kates's analogy to Oprah's new show. It immediately drew me in and got me excited about the new plan. I jumped to the second page, the Plan of Aspirations. The first aspiration is that all members will graduate with honors. I was surprised and slightly disheartened by this goal. I did not graduate from college with honors but did fin-

ish with a 3.4 GPA, all while holding multiple offices for Panhellenic and Theta (including president) and a part-time student job, as my parents made me pay a portion of my expenses for fraternity membership. There were some women in my chapter who could have used a kick in the pants to get serious about school. Women who do not apply themselves academically have no place in Theta or any other Greek women's organization.

I believe the true aspiration for Theta should be to encourage each woman's fullest academic potential, whatever that may be. As it reads now, this A/B student feels like she would not have lived up to today's aspiration.

KATHRYN TRICK MOUNT ΔK/LSU

Fraternity vice-president Mandy Burgett Wushinske, Zeta Sigma/Ohio Northern, replies.

Kathryn, thanks so much for taking the time to share your thoughts on this important aspiration.

As you indicated in your letter, it's essential that we encourage all members to reach their fullest academic potential. The intent behind this aspiration is to do just that. Our Fraternity Plan of Aspirations is a look at where we hope to move in the future and an outline of our priorities. Specifically, this aspiration is not a requirement of membership, rather it is what we aspire to become.

"Honors" can be interpreted in many different ways. This term is not linked directly to grade-point average, but is more closely aligned to being recognized by the institution as a college woman who has reached academic success. This will look different on every campus-to some it will be membership in an honorary, to others it will be recognition by their department or making the Dean's List. The common theme is that the recognition is based on academic achievement.

Our first aspiration is essential. It sets the tone for the high Fraternity standards that we cherish. Our founders were committed to academic excellence and pursued that together. The hope is that our college women will continue to do that by striving to do their very best. I love that this aspiration recognizes that each member individually pursues excellence, but it's important to also note that there is strength in the collective goal. By committing to this aspiration, the Fraternity promises to work to provide the tools, resources, support, and guidance to our members so that each can achieve her academic best.

From reading your letter, I would interpret that you did, indeed, graduate with honors. It sounds like you worked diligently and took your academic pursuits seriously to accomplish your personal best. That's certainly something to be proud of!

WIDEST INFLUENCE FOR GOOD

In July 2010, Elise Connor, Gamma/Butler, brought to Santa Fe 21 college Thetas to volunteer to help the Girls Club (Winter 2010-11) They also visited my studio. I was asked to give a little talk about my painting career, as well as my life as a Theta at Syracuse University.

The father of one of the girls, Rachel Tilghman, wrote me the next day and thanked me for "motivating them to do what they love."

I just wanted to tell you that their visit was the highlight of my summer.

JANET WENSLEY KIMBERLING X/SYRACUSE & \(\Gamma^\Delta\)/OHIO WESLEYAN ♦

WRITE TO US!

Do you have a comment about an article in this or any other issue of The Magazine? Do you have a Theta issue on your mind? Then let us hear from you! We are pleased to receive letters from our readers; we value your input.

Letters to The Magazine may be sent via mail (Liz Rinck, Kappa Alpha Theta, 8740 Founders Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46268), fax (317-876-1925), or e-mail (Irinck@kappaalphatheta.org).

The true aspiration for Theta should be to encourage each woman's fullest academic potential. whatever that may be.'





Each year, Theta Foundation provides more than \$1 million in support of Theta women, their dreams, and the communities they serve.

However, our mission is not fulfilled without your help. Now more than ever, our sisters need your support. Visit Theta Foundation's website at www.KappaAlphaThetaFoundation.org and learn about the numerous ways you can make a difference by giving, receiving, or sharing.



Whether you give, receive, or share, you make Theta dreams a reality.

Invest in Your Sisters



Every donation to Theta Foundation is an investment in sisterhood. Whether you give a small gift in honor of your sister's birthday, or endow your own named

scholarship that will live on forever, your donation makes a difference. To learn about ways to give, visit <u>www.</u> KappaAlphaThetaFoundation.org/give.

Apply Online



In 2010-11,
Theta Foundation
gave more than
\$569,000 to
individual Theta
women for their
education and
leadership development through our
scholarship and

grant programs. This year's scholarship applications are due February 1, 2012, so what are you waiting for? Apply now at www.kappaAlphaThetaFoundation.org/receive.

Become a Trustee



Opportunities to share with Theta Foundation are endless. One way to share is to apply to serve on our Board of Trustees. Look for applications to be posted to our

website in January. To learn more about sharing with Theta Foundation, visit www. KappaAlphaThetaFoundation.org/share.

FIND US ONLINE: Facebook: facebook.com/ThetaFoundation Twitter: @ThetaFoundation

www.KappaAlphaThetaFoundation.org

8740 Founders Road Indianapolis, IN 46268

.800.KAO.1870



- A Carey Fitzmaurice and Lisa Ladd Bailey, both ΔΞ/North Carolina; Alison McCormick, B/ Indiana; and Tracy Karpinos McOrmond. Kimberley McCarty and Shellie Berlin Bressler, all ΔΞ/North Carolina, formed Team Theta Teal Toes, which participated in Run Like A Girl. The event benefitted the HERA Foundation, which raises funds for ovarian cancer research. Fitzmaurice, an ovarian cancer survivor, started the nonprofit organization Teal Toes to raise awareness for the disease.
- Alice Yu, Anita Lin, Kirsten Aarsvold, May Liu, and Sheena Bhalla, all Zeta Mu/MIT, visited the Grand Canyon.
- C Katheryn Ruff, B/Indiana; and Linda Goodyear Sweeney, Jan Temple, Toni Alles, and Karen Temple Fisher, all A/DePauw, trav-

- elled to Athens, cruised the Aegean Sea, and visited Istanbul.
- Members of Gamma Zeta/Connecticut played charades with children at the American School for the Deaf.
- Members of Gamma/Butler visited Fraternity headquarters.
- Beth Emerson Mrkvicka, Kathy Enander Lindholm, Melissa Hunter Long, and Maurie Mitchell Jones, members of the 1976 new member class at Alpha/DePauw, reunited in San Francisco.
- G Hannah Mariani and Meghan Anderson, both HΦ/Belmont, made a visit to Fraternity headquarters.
- H Abbie Burgess, Y/Minnesota, attended a banquet for Minnesota student government

- leaders at the university president's home and met the president's wife, Susan Hagstrum, T/ Northwestern.
- Members of the Westchester and Fairfield County Alumnae Chapters enjoyed Rose Day at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown, NY.
- Pinky Stone Brady, La Verne Kneeshaw Schmidt, Zibby Hayes Jones, Nancy Hardy Drew, Betsy Amick Rhodes, and Barbara Lehr Jones, alumnae of ΓΞ/San Jose State, held their annual Pansy Party at Lake Tahoe, Calif.
- K The Hartford Alumnae Chapter toured the gardens of Lynn Wilkie Murray, BT/Denison, in Glastonbury, Conn.
- L Orange County Alumnae Chapter board members Lauren Nordeman Goulette, ΓΣ/ San Diego State; Jessica Cardelucci and Kelli

HETAS OF NOTE



MEGAN COYLE STAMOS, B/INDIANA, was one of 20 recipients of Toledo's 20 Under 40 award. She is vice president of Coyle Funeral Home and Cremation



Borshoff, an Indianapolisbased full-service communications firm, has named KAREN SCHULTZ ALTER, Γ/ BUTLER, an agency



At 91 years old, ELEANOR (Benny) BENFER LOHMAN, ВФ/PENN STATE, earned a silver medal in the 100-meter dash at the 2011 Summer National Senior Games in Houston, Texas, with a time of 42 seconds. She competed in the 90 and over age category



has named PAIGE BENDEL ELLERMAN, IT/KENTUCKY, one of its Forty Under 40



The Texas Exes, the University of Texas alumni LESLIE DICKINSON CEDAR, AO/TEXAS, its first female executive director and CEO



Dobbins, both HΣ/Chapman; Cathie Waters Cardelucci and Jennifer Walker, both BE/ UCLA; Cori Griffin Bero, ΓΣ/San Diego State; Paula Dahlgren, ZO/Cal Poly; and Katie Jones, BO/Iowa, hosted the chapter's first-ever fund-raiser-a lawn bowling event!

- M Christy Hamlin, Franci Stavropoulos, Marty Ames, Roseann Niemeyer Thomas, and Jane Thompson Birckhead, all alumnae of B/ Indiana, convened in Aspen, Colo., to celebrate their 60th birthdays.
- N Mary Moodey Sutherland, Sue Olson DeGan, Harriet Stafford Curry, (back) Emily Weirich Bandera. Mary Kolb Emison, Julie Warner Schmid, and Joan Edris Bossert, all alumnae of B/Indiana, met for an outing in Michigan.
- O Fraternity volunteers Erin Tucker Howle, Nicole Imbraguglio Dillon, and Michelle Mouton, all ΔK/LSU, met for a special reunion.

- P Grace Baer Holderman, BΦ/Penn State, celebrated her 99th birthday with members of the State College Alumnae Chapter.
- O Fraternity First Alternate NPC Delegate Karen Albrecht Ledbetter, \(\Gamma\)T/Tulsa, and Fraternity Executive Director Betsv Sierk Corridan, BO/ Iowa, were among the members representing Kappa Alpha Theta at NPC's 2011 Annual Meeting.

Not pictured

Lauren Haire, AE/Arizona State, is the morning weather anchor at CBS4 in Denver.

Mitzi Mallarian Brunsdale, FN/North Dakota State, was named a voting member of the National Book Critics Circle, a nonprofit organization of more than 700 book reviewers interested in honoring quality writing.

Members of the 1959 initiation class at Alpha

Omicron/Oklahoma met in Houston for their annual reunion.

The Association of Fraternal Leadership & Values hosted its annual House Directors Conference in Providence, RI. Theta Facility Directors Carolyn Anderson, Sandy Fritz, Kathryn Hopkins, Teresa Jones, Gail Mastin, Maureen Weber, Anne Witowski, and Karen Davino were all in attendance.



VANESSA TERNES, AP/ SOUTH DAKOTA, was named Miss Rodeo South Dakota 2011 at the Black Hills Round Up PRCA Rodeo. She will compete for Miss Rodeo America in Las Vegas.



KIMBERLY PENNINGER KINCAID, AΦ/CLEMSON, was named one of the top business leaders in the Anderson (SC) community at its 20 Under 40 awards



LISSA LUTON BRADFORD, AH/VANDERBILT, was award ed the 2011 Distinguished Service Award by NPC, honoring one member who has contributed time or talent to the advancement of the orga nization and supports the NPC founding principles of interfraternal cooperation and unity.



SHELBY RINGDAHL, TY/ TCU, won Miss Texas County (Missouri), her very first pageant, and will be competing in the Miss Missouri pageant



RIAN BROOKS, TY/TCU, IS the sales manager for WORN a socially conscious brand that sells scarves knitted by women who have settled in the USA as refugees, WORN provides a source of income to these women, empowering them to rise above poverty. wornforpeace.com



- A Members of the Boston Metro Alumnae Chapter, Zeta Mu Chapter at MIT, and Zeta Xi Chapter celebrated Founders Day in Cambridge, Mass.
- B Beverly Botelho Bernard-Skiba, ΓΗ/ Massachusetts; Judie Lahti Kupperman, ΓΠ/Iowa State; Janet Nichols Krueger, ΓH/Massachusetts; and Elizabeth Skeats Bardsley, FM/Maryland, attended the Concord Alumnae Chapter's Founders Day celebration where Bernard-Skiba was honored for her 50 years in Theta and Krueger as outstanding alumna.
- C Flatirons Alumnae Chapter President Mary Ziegler Suess, AΠ/North Dakota; 75-year Theta Betty Thorson Kellogg, BE/UCLA; and

- 50-year Theta Kit Stuart Wise, AO/Oklahoma, celebrated Founders Day during the chapter event at the Beta Iota/Colorado facility.
- D Epsilon Epsilon/Baylor alumnae Mary Bess Corbin Dalton, Cheryl Cartee Wolters, (back) Amanda Miller Ray, Casey Anderson, Carol Huckaby Daley, Linda Metzger Tucker, Clarissa Schoenhals Hodges, and Carly Strickland Andrews met up at the Arlington Alumnae Chapter's Founders Day celebration breakfast.
- E Fifty-year Thetas Sue Hammat Simms, ΓΧ/ Fresno State: Virginia Johannsen Willard, Ψ/Wisconsin; Janice Friddle Holcombe, ΓΣ/ San Diego State; Julie Davis Dennis, AY/ Lawrence; and Founders Day committee chairman Karen Graeper Filley, AE/Oregon,

- celebrated the Portland Alumnae Chapter's 100th anniversary at the chapter's Founders Day event.
- Joan Cramer Moeller, Mary Jo Buvinger Wolters, Laurie McGregor Connor, Dottie Lerch Berner, and Paula Jacoby Parker, all Γ∆/Ohio Wesleyan, celebrated Parker's 50 years in Theta at the Dayton Alumnae Chapter's Founders Day event.
- G Area alumnae attended the Cleveland Alumnae Chapter's Founders Day brunch.
- H In honor of Founders Day, the Des Moines Alumnae Chapter held its annual Thetas Through the Decades brunch, which highlighted fashions from the 90 years of the alumnae chapter's existence as modeled by members of Beta Kappa/Drake and Gamma



Members of the WESTCHESTER ALUMNAE CHAPTER and collegians of Eta Xi/QUINNIPIAC shared a Founders Day celebration at Larchmont Yacht Club in Larchmont, NY



PAM ROE COLEMAN, RITA RAMAGE WELLS, MITZI WALTERS VAIMBERG, LOU ANN ROGERS SINK, ROXANNE WOOD TURNIPSEED, CILE LACHICOTTE SPIVEY, ANNACLAIR LAWSON KIGER, and ANDREA SMITH USRY, all $\Delta\Phi$ /CLEMSON, met in Atlanta for the group's annual reunion.



Nine alumnae of ALPHA SIGMA/WASHINGTON STATE met for a summer reunion



Pi/Iowa State.

- The Knoxville Alumnae Chapter held its annual Founders Day event at the Cherokee Country Club.
- J Alumnae from the 1975-1977 initiation classes at Beta Xi/UCLA met for an aloha luncheon in Corona del Mar, Newport Beach, Calif.
- K Susan Parker Martin, Georganne Harmon, Betty Buntin Finucane. Jan Patterson Eason. (back) Ann Evans Peebles, Dianne Dixon Vaughn, Harriet Watkins Porter, Sandy Fernald Gerow, Camilla Leiteh Hughes, and Griffie Glasser Cook, all AH/Vanderbilt, met for a 45th reunion weekend.
- L Members of the 1961 new member class from

- NIONS FY/Miami, met for a reunion in Frisco,
 - M Ellen Yeager Hartman, Julie Francavilla Cipoletti, Brenda Brown Staab, Kelley Galbreath Hurst, Shelley Braxton Malachowski, (back) Cheryl Christensen Sullivan, Teresa Clarkson Sorlie, and Valerie Jarvi Tracy, all BI/Colorado, met for their annual reunion in Boulder, Colo.
 - Gail Peters Karsian, FZ/Connecticut; Peg Spitznas Harmon, BK/Drake; Carolyn Cousins Sullivan, FZ/Connecticut; and Nancy Plocar Gerrish, Alllinois, reunited on a Danube River cruise.
 - O Gamma Delta/Georgia alumnae (front) Anne Sullivan Haynie, Patsy Adams Smith, Marilyn Eckerman Newman, Gloria Fechtel Andrew,

- Sheila Glass McKinney, (back) Nancy Marshall Reu, Martha Moore Thom, Peggy Delamater Eades, Cler Colson Cole, Rowena Jones Clyatt, and Bootie Gowen Wood meet each year for a three-day reunion. This year's event took place in Hilton Head Island, SC.
- Alumnae from BI/Colorado reunited for the first time in 23 years! Annie Kenkel, Linda Riege, Billie Maxwell Taylor, and Kristin Krueger Mueller met on the Oregon coast for a weeklong vacation together.
- Members of the 1995 AP/South Dakota initiation class, met in Vermillion, SD, for a summer reunion.
- R Beta Pi/Michigan State members returned to East Lansing, Mich., for a chapter reunion.



The 1961 initiation class from ALPHA LAMBDA/ WASHINGTON reunited in Vaughn, Wash.



ROBERTA ENGER SOUTHAM, JOAN STAMMEN HARTMAN, (back) CAROLYN PIERCE JOLSTAD, CAROL SOEBY HANSON, BEVERLY LIND GJERTSON, and MARY HAGEN WATSON, all alumnae of IN/NORTH DAKOTA STATE, enjoyed a Caribbean cruise reunion together.



his autumn, the Fraternity added two chapters to its college chapter roster! The weekend of October 21, Fraternity officers traveled to San Francisco to install the Eta Upsilon Chapter at the University of San Francisco (USF). Seventy-three charter members were initiated with the help of collegians from Omega/UC Berkeley and local San Francisco alumnae.

The weekend of November 12 took Fraternity officers to Nashville, Tenn., to install the Eta Phi Chapter at Belmont University. One hundred and twentytwo women were initiated. The installation team was assisted by chapter members from Alpha Eta/ Vanderbilt, Gamma Iota/Kentucky, Delta Upsilon/ Eastern Kentucky, and local Nashville alumnae.

Many special events were planned for the weeks leading up to installation. The locally based educational leadership consultants (ELCs) prepared an inspiration week full of sisterhood activities and culminating with the Loyalty Service on Friday night. About inspiration week, an Eta Phi charter member said, "My favorite memory was receiving my twin star. She is an inspiring, radiant woman who brings so much joy and light to my life. I would never have met this precious friend without Kappa Alpha Theta."

Fraternity President Amy Kates, Alpha Phi/Tulane, presided over both Initiation Services, initiating a total of 195 new members between the two college chapters. "Installing Eta Upsilon and Eta Phi were delightful experiences," Kates said. "We are fortunate

O CHAPTERS, BY JENNI BROUGHTON, T/BUTLER



Thank you to the Fraternity officers, educational leadership consultants, and staff members who served on the installation teams:

ETA UPSILON INSTALLATION TEAM

Amy Kates, AΦ/Tulane, Fraternity president

Vicki McCluggage, O/USC, Theta Foundation trustee

Liz Weiss, EY/Richmond, Fraternity music coordinator

Sarah Polito, BM/Nevada, membership district director

Jenni Broughton, Γ/Butler, assistant director of chapter services

Tory Freese, AM/Missouri, chapter services program coordinator

Corey Burnett, O/USC, ELC

Lauren Lewis, A/Illinois, ELC

Katharine Murphy, ΓZ/Connecticut, ELC

Justine Rosenberg, EΣ/UC Irvine, ELC

http://www.kappaalpha theta.org/chapters/

to have had the opportunity to grow our Theta family with these two outstanding chapters."

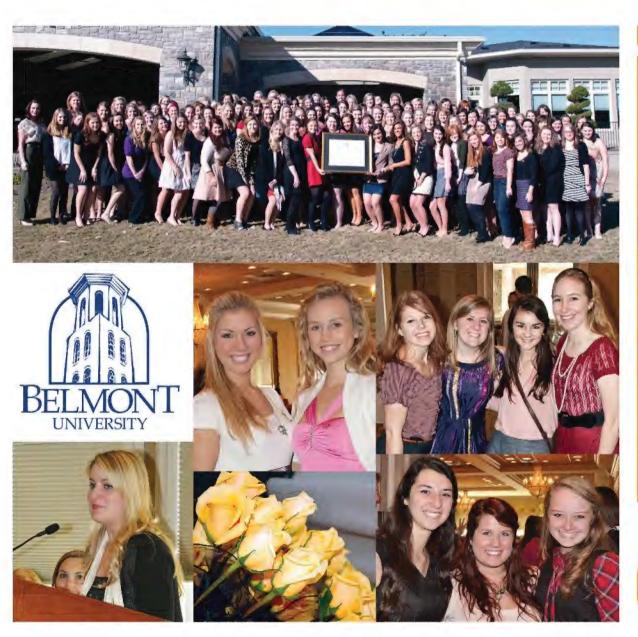
Charter members were equally excited for members of Grand Council to be present at their ritual ceremonies. Another Eta Phi charter member spoke enthusiastically about Initiation. "It was awesome to finally know all the Theta secrets, and it was so meaningful to have Grand Council here to initiate us. The history and tradition of the ritual was the best part for sure!"

Sunday morning began with the Charter Service. "Signing the charter was a very exciting experience," an Eta Upsilon charter member recalled. "There was an overwhelming feeling that we were making history for Theta as well as for future members of our chapter." The weekend concluded with the Installation

Celebration. University administrators, men and women from the Greek community, alumnae, parents, and friends were invited to a brunch celebrating the new chapters. The celebration in San Francisco was held at the historic Metropolitan Club and at the lovely Hillwood Country Club in Nashville.

The future is bright for these two chapters. "The charter class consists of an extraordinary group of women. They never cease to amaze me with their goals, accomplishments, and impact on the campus and in their community," said Lauren Lewis, one of the ELCs providing continuous support to Eta Upsilon. The Fraternity looks forward to seeing the great things these new chapters will accomplish. \(\rightarrow \)

MANY MEMORIES



ETA PHI INSTALLATION

Amy Kates, AΦ/Tulane, Fraternity president

Lissa Bradford, AH/Vanderbilt, former Fraternity president

Suzanne McLemore, AII/Tennessee. Fraternity vice-president finance & facilities

Lisa Mello, ΓΦ/Texas Tech, college district president

Liz Weiss, EY/Richmond, Fraternity music coordinator

Jenni Broughton, Γ/Butler, assistant director of chapter services

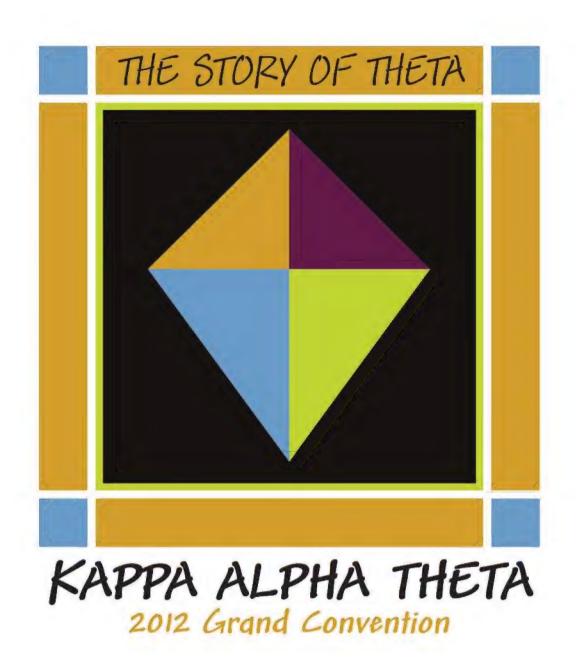
Joni Jameson, ΓΦ/Texas Tech,

Katie Wilkerson, FI/Kentucky,

Casey Barry, FY/Miami,

Madison Motley, AO/Oklahoma,

Christa Samaha, HP/JMU, ELC



JOIN US IN TUCSON AND

GRAND CONVENTION 2012 JUNE 27-JULY 1, TUCSON, ARIZ.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

OLD AND NEW FRIENDS SHARE THETA STORIES AT THE WELCOME DINNER.



THURSDAY, JUNE 28

OUR FRATERNITY STORY FEATURES AWARD-WINNING ALUMNAE AND COLLEGE CHAPTERS AT THE ALUMNAE RECOGNITION LUNCHEON AND COLLEGE RECOGNITION DINNER.



FRIDAY, JUNE 29

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IS THE THEME OF THE SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON.



SATURDAY, JUNE 30

WHAT STORIES WILL WE TELL ABOUT THE SUNRISE WALK TO BENEFIT CASA? THE DAY CONTINUES WITH THE FOUNDATION/SERVICE LUNCHEON, AND CONCLUDES WITH THE CONVENTION BANQUET.



SUNDAY, JULY 1

THE THETA STORY ENDURES AS CONVENTION ATTENDEES TRAVEL HOME TO SHARE THE KNOWLEDGE AND ENTHUSIASM THEY'VE GAINED.



SHARE THE STORY OF KAO!

DEMYSTIFYING GRAND COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED HOW YOU COULD MAKE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN YOUR FRATERNITY? HERE'S YOUR CHANCE!

It's almost time to begin the nomination process for the Grand Council that will be elected at Grand Convention 2012. As stated in the Kappa Alpha Theta Constitution, the first purpose of Grand Convention is to "... elect the members of Grand Council." These women will lead our Fraternity for the following biennium. By sending recommendations for Council candidates, you can be part of the selection process and thus influence the future course of the Fraternity.

WHAT IS GRAND COUNCIL?

Grand Council is the governing body of the Fraternity between Conventions. The elected members of Grand Council are the Fraternity president and six Fraternity vice-presidents. The Foundation President, elected by the Foundation Board of Trustees, also serves on Grand Council, ex officio.

The Nominating Committee is charged with creating a slate of nominees to serve in the seven elected Fraternity positions and with presenting that slate to the Convention body prior to the election.

WHO SERVES ON THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE? **HOW ARE THEY CHOSEN?**

The Nominating Committee chairman, appointed by the Fraternity president with the approval of Grand Council, directs the work of the Nominating Committee. The vice-chairman of the Committee is similarly appointed and takes the chairman's place should she be unable to perform her duties. The Fraternity's executive director serves as the committee's secretary.

At the first meeting of Grand Convention, each district will elect one delegate to serve on the Nominating Committee. By random drawing, five districts will be assigned to elect college delegates as their representatives; the remaining five districts will elect alumnae delegates to serve on Nominating Committee. Only delegates from college and alumnae chapters in good standing at the time of Convention are eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee.

HOW DOES THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE WORK?

In the months leading up to Convention, the Nominating Committee chairman solicits information from Theta alumnae who are willing to serve on Grand Council for the next biennium, as well as references from the Theta members, volunteers, and staff who have worked with those alumnae.

At Convention, between business and education sessions, the Nominating Committee will meet to review the information submitted by each Grand Council candidate, as well as all references submitted about the candidates; in addition, each candidate will be interviewed.

After evaluating the qualifications, skills, and strengths of the individual candidates and assessing the strengths of potential Council teams as a whole, the Committee creates a slate and presents it to the Convention.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE SLATE IS PRESENTED?

The Fraternity president will call for nominations from the floor, which are allowed in our laws. After any such nominations, the Convention delegates will vote in an election run by the Election Board.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE ON GRAND COUNCIL?

According to our laws, any Theta alumna in good standing who is a college graduate is eligible to serve on Grand Council.

HOW DO I MAKE MYSELF AVAILABLE FOR COUNCIL SERVICE?

If you are interested in being a candidate for Council service or wish to recommend another Theta as a candidate, visit the Convention area of the Theta website for more information and for the applicable forms. Contact the Nominating Committee Chair with any questions.

WHO SHOULD SUBMIT REFERENCES FOR COUNCIL CANDIDATES?

All Thetas (collegians and alumnae) and Fraternity staff members who have worked with a candidate should submit references.

HOW DO I SUBMIT A REFERENCE?

Visit the Convention area of the Theta website, www. kappaalphatheta.org/alumnae/events/grandconvention. All references will be due in May 2012. ◊

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The Convention area of the website has more information on Grand Council service, deadlines, candidate expectations, and reference guidelines. Visit www.kappaalphatheta.org/ nominations. (Log in is required.)

WHOM CAN I **CONTACT WITH** QUESTIONS?

All questions can be directed to Jane Shepherd Dick, Epsilon Mu/Princeton, Nominating Committee chairman. NCChair@kappaalphatheta.org

Perhaps the single most important aspect of the Nominating Committee is confidentiality. All recommendations and deliberations are held in strictest confidence."

OU CAN MAKE A DIFFERE



IF YOU THINK CONVENTION IS JUST A LOT OF MEETINGS THAT KEEP YOU TRAPPED INSIDE A HOTEL, THINK AGAIN.

SUNRISE WALK FOR CASA

For the second biennium. Convention attendees will get out and get moving to raise money for Court Appointed Special Advocates of Pima County, Ariz.

In 2010, more than 500 Thetas and guests clad in specially designed T-shirts joined honorary walk leader Robin Jameson McGraw, Omicron/USC, for a nighttime walk that raised more than \$3,500 for Pima County CASA. At Convention 2012, we'll raise fun as well as funds with a Sunrise Walk on Saturday, June 30. More information, including how to register for the walk, will be available at www.kappaalphatheta.org beginning February 29.

Help spread Theta's widest influence for good in the beautiful Sonoran Desert as the sun rises over the Tucson Mountains. ◊



was honorary walk leader for the starlight walk at Grand Convention 2010



GET MOVING FOR CASA



PATTY HUGHES EAGAR, BQ/COLORADO COLLEGE, SERVES AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN IN NORTHERN GEORGIA. THE PROGRAMS OF THIS NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION INCLUDE FLOWERING BRANCH CHILDREN'S SHELTER, A BETTER WAY CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER, AND COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA). IN FACT, EAGAR FOUNDED THE BARTOW COUNTY CASA IN 2000.

PLEASE TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT CASA THAT WE PROBABLY DON'T KNOW.

CASA volunteers are highly trained and prepared to do the work they do to help change young lives forever. It's the best job you can ever have that you don't get paid for. There are never enough CASA volunteers.

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF YOUR CURRENT JOB?

Every day is different with new challenges. I get enormous satisfaction from knowing that our team is making a difference in kids' lives, and sharing those successes with others who want to help.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

I was a camp counselor in New Hampshire for many years, which is still one of my fondest memories.

WHAT IS YOUR PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT?

I love the way our kids have turned out, and that I've stayed happily married for 35 years (so far). And I am, of course, proud of what Advocates for Children has become while I have been fortunate enough to be a part of it.

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE AND WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE DOING IN 10 YEARS?

I don't know where exactly, but I would like to be travelling a lot, still healthy and doing some volunteer work. It's in my blood.

WHAT TALENT DO YOU WISH YOU HAD?

I wish I had some artistic talent-any at all would be nice.

LOOKING AT YOU, NO ONE WOULD GUESS THAT

By nature I am still pretty shy.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE A YOUNG PERSON JUST STARTING OUT?

Try lots of (legal) things, keep learning, don't be afraid to change paths, skip the tattoos, proofread everything you write, and laugh as often as humanly possible.

WHAT DO YOU VALUE IN YOUR FRIENDS?

Of course, loyalty! But I also value honesty, ethics, a sense of humor, and a mutual appreciation of wine.

WHO ARE YOUR HEROES?

Those real women who went before us and set good examples along the way are my heroes.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THETA MEMORY?

Even though it was long ago, there are still too many to recount: recruitment parties; initiations; chapter meetings; listening to records (yes, records); eating graham crackers in the kitchen; trick or treating for UNICEF in a foot of snow; and our wonderful housemother, Gladys Thomas, are but a few of them. My only regret: my mom died at the end of August. She would have likely been very happy seeing this article published here about one of her three Theta daughters. Theta was her life for many years, and she delighted in her Theta friendships (and all the secrets). ♦



the best job you can ever have that you don't get paid for."

KAPPA ALPHA THETA'S TRUE PROMISE IS A VOW, A TWO-WAY PLEDGE BETWEEN THE FRATERINTY AND EACH OF HER MEMBERS. IT'S UP TO EACH THETA TO DISCOVER AND FULFILL THE PROMISE WITHIN HERSELF. SO, O. IT IS UP TO EACH THETA TO DETERMINE WHAT THE FRATERNITY WILL MEAN TO HER AND HOW HER MEMBERSHIP WILL

ROMISE?

MARGARET FLOY WASHBURN, I/CORNELL. IS A KAPPA ALPHA THETA WOMAN OF TRUE PROMISE.

In 1871, one year after Bettie Locke founded the first Greek-letter Fraternity for women, a girl was born in New York City. Her name was Margaret Floy Washburn, and—like Bettie Locke—she would one day leave a distinct mark on coeducation.

After graduating from high school at the age of 15, Washburn enrolled in Vassar in Poughkeepsie, NY. It might seem odd that a woman who attended a college at which Theta has never established a chapter would be a Women of True Promise, but Washburn didn't become a Theta as an undergraduate. Instead, she was initiated while earning her PhD in psychology—the first woman ever to do so-at Cornell.

Her journey from Poughkeepsie to PhD wasn't an easy one. After graduating from Vassar, Washburn applied to the psychology graduate program at Columbia, which did not admit women to advanced degree programs. Three months of persistence from Washburn convinced the Columbia trustees to allow her to sit in graduate courses but not to apply those courses toward a degree.

After one year, the department head at Columbia encouraged her to transfer to Cornell, where she would be allowed to earn her PhD. Even at Cornell, women had to work twice as hard to prove themselves to professors and male students, many of whom made

their disapproval obvious. Women needed support, something Washburn, and many others, found in Kappa Alpha Theta.

With the encouragement of her Iota Chapter sisters and mentors, Washburn graduated as the first female PhD in psychology in 1894. Her experimental studies in animal behavior and motor theory development earned attention, and by 1903, she was regarded as one of the top 50 psychologists in America. She was elected president of the American Psychological Association (1921) and named to the National Academy of Sciences (1931); in both instances, she was only the second woman to be so, and would also serve as editor of the American Journal of Psychology and Psychological Review.

Although Bettie Locke and the first female coeds fought hard for their education, the second generation of Thetas—Washburn, especially—needed one another more than ever to succeed.

Margaret Floy Washburn lived up to the True Promise of her Theta predecessors, but more importantly, her intelligence, fearlessness, and persistence made it possible for millions of women who came after her to seek higher education. How will you live out your True Promise? ◊



The results of experimental work, if it is successful at all, bring more lasting satisfaction than the development of theories."



LINKED HEART TO HEART

By Kristen Steves, I/Cornell

A casual encounter with Ingrid Nunez, Iota/Cornell, would leave you enamored of her inviting smile, contagious laugh, and confidence. After meeting this ambitious woman, you would walk away with a grin and sense of elevated happiness; this is her special gift, bringing joy into the lives of others. Ingrid is particularly special because she, while battling lung cancer, continues to bring Theta sisters and others together in hope and love. The members of the lota Chapter at Cornell are inspired by Ingrid to embrace the true meaning of sisterhood, linking heart to heart to promote lung cancer awareness.

In March 2011, Ingrid, a 19-year-old sophomore, was diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer. Friends, family, and Thetas were in shock because Ingrid is a nonsmoker. Yet Ingrid's strength ignited a light of hope among those who witnessed her passion for life and motivation to battle her disease. "Every day that I see her, I am reminded that we can do anything we want to if we believe strongly enough and have a positive attitude," says Carolyn Levitan, Iota/Cornell.

According to the Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation, 53 percent of women with lung cancer are nonsmokers. The reality is harsh. Every day, 450 people die in the US from lung cancer, and this specific type is the leading cause of cancer death for both women and men.

After becoming aware of her condition, Iota Chapter wanted to support Ingrid and her treatment, as well as spread awareness about the pervasiveness and severity of lung cancer. Last April, we organized "Believe I.N. Better," a successful benefit concert, featuring Cornell's top a cappella groups, that raised funds for Ingrid's (I.N.) treatment.

Representatives from the Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation contacted Ingrid in hopes of joining efforts to host a Jog for Jill 5k fund-raising event, with proceeds donated to support lung cancer

research. Jog for Jill was originated by a group of Kappa Kappa Gammas at UC Berkeley in honor of their friend, Jill Costello, who also suffered from lung

Iota Chapter members worked tirelessly to publicize Jog for Jill in Honor of Ingrid Nunez, contacting the local Greek community, Cornell athletics, and academic departments that specialize in marketing. We also established relationships with the Ithaca's radio station and local cancer support group.

"It was my hope that with organizing this run I could not only raise money for lung cancer research, but more importantly, spread awareness and change the stigma surrounding this horrible disease, all the while supporting the fight of an amazing individual," says Hannah Geiser, Iota Chapter president. Geiser's hope transformed into a reality on September 25. With 679 registered participants, including 20 Kappa Alpha Thetas from the Chi Chapter at Syracuse University, we raised \$45,903.

The run also put the term sisterhood into perspective for Carolyn Levitan. "In planning this event, I was completely overwhelmed by the outpouring of support we received from all of our sisters, both locally and nationally."

"You Only Live Once," (YOLO) is a phrase Ingrid used while speaking to supporters at the raceencouraging everyone to embrace life. "I don't know where I would be without my Theta sisters. I never feel as though I'm fighting this cancer alone because I have more than 100 girls who are there for me whenever I need someone. Theta has given me the best support system anyone with cancer could ever dream of," Ingrid stated.

As she courageously battles lung cancer, Ingrid inspires Thetas near and far to be linked heart to heart. As her Iota sisters, we continue to experience a form of sisterhood that goes beyond any label or definition. It means hoping for a brighter future, together; embracing life, together; and loving the simple things, together. And most importantly, sisterhood means being a part of something greater than oneself. ◊



Jog for Jill Cornell in Honor of Ingrid Nunez (pictured in the center of the upper left photo) raised nearly \$48,000 for lung cancer awareness by December 1.

Theta has given me the best support system anyone with cancer could ever dream of."



Dream of great things and always believe what you want is attainable.

Jillian Costello, Inspiration for Jog for Jill

TO BROADEN UNDERSTANDING

BY NORALEEN DUVALL YOUNG, AX/PURDUE

Kappa Alpha Theta has a long-standing history of providing fellowships and scholarships to its members. This tradition continues as Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation awarded more than \$550,000 in scholarships to members of the Fraternity in 2011.

But for a short period of time, the Fraternity (prior to the founding of the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation in 1961), provided support to non-Theta women from around the world to "broaden knowledge and further understanding of human values through contact of people of varying cultures so that through leadership an enlightened attitude toward our social responsibility may be developed."

The experience of the two world wars made many in the United States reflect on the need to develop and maintain links to the international community to hopefully ensure that wars of such magnitude would not happen again. Theta's response was to support foreign graduate students to further their educational goals. Beginning in 1946, Theta awarded six women representing as many countries, fellowships to continue their graduate work in the US. In today's dollars, that support totaled more than \$92,000. These special recipients went on to contribute much to their communities and their countries, representing in their own way Theta's core values of personal excellence, friendship, scholarship, service, and leadership.

MARTA OSSA REYGADAS, CHILE **ATTORNEY**

Reygadas received a grant in 1946 to further her studies at the University of Southern California. At the time, she was serving as an attorney for The Council of Children in Santiago, with a special focus on the problems of homeless children and the law. After her graduate work, she served from 1949 to 1952 at the Division of Women and Children of the International Labor Office at Geneva, Switzerland, and in 1961 she was appointed a judge of the 5th Juvenile Court of Santiago and successfully helped to draft legislation that addressed laws concerning minors.

DR. JOHANNA HUDIG, HOLLAND JUVENILE JUSTICE

Hudig received her fellowship in 1946 to attend the University of Chicago. As a citizen of Rotterdam, she survived the German bombing of her home and even the bomb shelter where she had taken refuge, subsisting on tulip bulbs for many months. After the war, Thetas brought her to the US and met her in Chicago. In the magazine article about her arrival she is quoted as saying, "I shall do all within my power to be a credit to Holland and to Kappa Alpha Theta!" Later articles follow her career, including being named Holland's first female judge. In 1964 she was appointed Knight of the Order of the Dutch Lion for her work.

EVA VRZALOVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA SOCIAL WORK

Vrzalova had begun her education prior to World War II, but it had been interrupted by the German invasion and she spent two years in a concentration camp. She came to the United States to continue her studies and returned to her country even though it had been

drawn behind the Iron Curtain. Finishing her work at Columbia, she felt it was important to go into social work as few trained workers had survived the war.

SHANTA VASISHT, INDIA SOCIAL WORK

Trained as an attorney, Vasisht was awarded her fellowship in 1948 to continue her studies and earn a MA from the University of Chicago. During her stay in the US, she attended the 1950 Grand Convention. An article written by her states "Their emblem fascinated me, and I could imagine the kite—flying high, active, and lively-symbolizing their aspirations and ideas ... Thetas have a knack of making people feel at home and give a stranger a peculiar reassurance with a smile or a look." Vasisht returned to India, where she was named state deputy minister of Delhi under Prime Minister Nehru, working in rural areas to support education and development. In 1957, Carol Green Wilson, Phi deuteron/Stanford, visited her in Delhi and reported about her work, including establishing schools, serving on the Harijan Welfare board (Gandhi's name for "untouchables") as well as working with 105 villages, driving around in a Dodge station wagon. In 2008, Vasisht published Nehru to Iraq, detailing her experiences working in the Indian government for more than 50 years.

DR. MARIA ESTHER AGUIRRE, BOLIVIA PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

After receiving her award in 1954, Aguirre continued her dental training at Tufts University. Her plans were to establish clinics for children upon her return to Bolivia. She, too, attended a Grand Convention, the 1954 event held in Quebec City.

TAIKO NAGASAWA, JAPAN SPEECH THERAPY

Nagasawa received her fellowship in 1962 and worked at Kappa Alpha Theta's first national philanthropy, the Institute of Logopedies (now Heartspring) in Wichita, Kan. After completing her work at the University of Wichita and the Institute, she returned to Tokyo to the National Center for Hearing and Speech Disorders. In the magazine article about her return home, she states "It means so much I cannot put in words. Please tell Kappa Alpha Thetas I am so grateful. I will make best of use of [my education] when I return to Japan." In 1972, she received her PhD from the University of Tokyo and is currently part of the faculty of Nihonbashi Gakkan University. She is an honorary member of The Japanese Society for Special Education. ◊



Hudig



Vrzalova







Nagasawa

This Fraternity program is financially supported by



Thetas have a knack of making people feel at home."



DISTINGUISHED BY TWO DEGREES FROM MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, DHAYA LAKSHMINARAYANAN TAKES TO THE STAGE AND LEAVES THEM LAUGHING AS A SMART, SAVVY, SUCCESSFUL-AND SOMEWHAT UNEXPECTED—STAND-UP COMIC.

BY JAN SCHMITZ MATHEW, A/ILLINOIS

rom the tender age of five, Dhaya Lakshminarayanan* had a knack for getting good laughs.

She recalls, as a kindergartener, asking her classmate, Matt, which color he loved best. When he answered "blue," young Dhaya quipped, "If you love it so much, why don't you marry it?'

Matt laughed; the teacher didn't. Dhaya landed in time-out, where she put the exclusion to good use. "When my teacher asked me if I had thought about what I said, I replied, 'Not really-but I did think of a few more jokes!" she says, laughing.

Dhaya, Zeta Mu/MIT, holds fond memories of growing up in a family where laughter was always the best medicine and humor was valued. Her parents, who were born in India, came to Chicago in the early 1970s and eventually settled in Birmingham, Ala., with Dhava and her brother, Venkat.

"The image of the traditional Indian household is studious and serious, but we didn't fit that stereotype," says Dhaya, known as the family prankster. "My mom was gregarious, boisterous, and made fun of everyone and everything-herself, her age, her husband.

"People always said, 'Dhaya's mom is funny, and her dad thinks he's funny!""

A self-described "slow learner," Dhava also was a lukewarm reader — with the exception of joke books, which she devoured. Her constant companion was a construction paper notebook, its pages packed with jokes she considered "money."
"One of my favorites was, 'What's worse than bit-

ing into an apple and seeing a worm? Biting in and seeing half a worm!" she recalls. "My mom always encouraged me to be myself and, for me, that meant amusing my classmates by telling jokes."

Through the years, the laughs kept coming. But as Dhaya blossomed from a funny girl into a smart, sophisticated, and witty woman, she also uncovered the key to comedy as an art form: The best material comes from what you know.

"Nobody else can make jokes about being an Indian girl growing up in Birmingham, Alabama, and going to MIT," says Dhaya, who is now based in San Francisco. "The more you can be yourself, off- and on-stage, the better you are as an artist.

"My comedy routines focus on what I'm feeling, and what's important to me."

And, in venues from Atlanta to Chicago and New York to Canada, Dhaya's comedic creed-like her long-ago construction paper notebook-is "money."

LEFT BRAIN MEETS RIGHT BRAIN

A natural comedian, Dhaya also excelled at math and science and enjoyed problem solving-an affinity she shared with her father, A.V., a retired physicist and professor. Her parents encouraged her to apply to MIT and, true to form, Dhaya opted to select her own topic for the admissions essay.

"What I wrote was irreverent, sassy, and funny,"

she recalls. "I felt good about being accepted there, because I had been 100 percent myself."

Dhava earned both her bachelor of science degree and master of city planning degree from MIT, with her master's work combining civil engineering, management, urban studies, and economics. And although MIT didn't offer degrees in comedy. Dhava also found ways to further hone her humor, most notably through Charm School.

An MIT tradition since 1993, Charm School plays off the stereotype of MIT students as awkward geeks in need of social graces. It runs for one fourhour afternoon during MIT's Independent Activities period-a four-week term in January/February that includes hundreds of academic, quasi-academic, and non-academic subjects-and each class spans only 15 minutes. Past Charm School curricula have included How to Shake Hands; Starting a Conversation; and How to Exude Confidence.

Through the years, Charm School has grown into a full-fledged community event, with MIT students, staff, and faculty teaming up to fuel its popularity and success. So it was only a matter of time before the name Dhaya Lakshminarayanan surfaced as a student guaranteed to combine Charm with a few good laughs.

Dhaya teamed up with Theta sister Stephanie Spavero to present Charm School lessons on Body Language, How to Tell a Joke, and The Art of Small Talk. She recalls this forum as her first opportunity to exercise public-speaking skills and to make the learning process fun for her audience. "A young woman who took 'Small Talk' told us that she actually got a date-thanks to our class!" says Dhaya, who taught Charm School classes as both an undergraduate and graduate student.

Following graduation, Dhaya worked as a management consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton, and in asset management for Parnassus Investments, a multibillion-dollar socially responsible mutual fund, where she specialized in health services. She also was an investor in both venture capital and nonprofit projects for a \$400 million fund headed by eBay founder Pierre Omidyar. Dhava next was named director of strategy and prizes at the Freedom Prize Foundation, which aims to decrease US dependence on foreign oil.

Within this professional realm—typically maledominated and often characterized by competitiveness and stress-Dhaya found humor to be the great equalizer. "I'm five feet tall and weigh about 98 pounds," she says, "so I didn't feel I could walk into a boardroom and start talking to the guys about last week's football game. Instead, the equalizing force was to make someone laugh. If I was simply being myself, I didn't worry so much about being in the boys' club.

"I played by my own rules—and comedy was a way for me to fit in."

Through the years, colleagues recognized Dhaya's talent and encouraged her to pursue a career in stand-up comedy. She took the leap in 2006, performing in clubs and large theaters, and touring with Five Funny Females. * Dhava explains her last name: "Lakshminarayanan is spelled phoentically. When my dad came to the US, he was forced to take a name that was spelled in Tamil characters and make it into an English spelling. If you say each and every letter in my last name, do not omit, and do not add any letters, you will pronounce it 100 percent right. The problem is, people want to add an extra i or an extra e sound where there is none. So: Lakshmi-NA-ra-yanan."

My comedy routines focus on what I'm feeling, and what's important to me."

upcoming performances,



"I was afraid," she admits, "but I also knew it would be impossible to pursue this without fear." She put together an eight-minute routine for her first gig, in which she appeared along with several performers.

"I was sick the entire week before but, when the time came, I took a heroic dose of cold medicine and, although I collapsed afterwards, I managed to do well for eight minutes," she recalls.

"The experience led to an aha moment. I learned that comedy is fun but, to be successful, you have to make it a priority. No matter what, you have to do your job. For me, that's to entertain people and to show them that comedy can elevate and educate."

LIVE AND ON STAGE ...

When creating her routines, Dhava's best material comes from everyday interactions with friends and family, as well as from her environment and areas of interest. The range, she says, can stretch from publie transportation and polities to the San Francisco Giants and Ben & Jerry's ice cream.

"Being observant and coming up with a weird take on things is an ongoing process," says Dhaya, who is now represented by JE Talent of San Francisco. "When I get an audience to laugh about things I'm interested in, I believe it elevates the art."

Dhaya further distinguishes her comedy as "clean." Although she occasionally tweaks her routine to fit the audience-such as more liberal and political jokes for a Berkeley venue-she doesn't swear or include graphic topics. She performs primarily at comedy clubs and private or corporate events and, depending on whether she's the opener, feature, or headliner, her routines range from 10 to 45 minutes.

Business savvy is key to success, too, in terms of how to market and differentiate herself, and how to negotiate fees. "My worst experience was a routine I did at a bar on St. Patrick's Day," she recalls. "Most of the audience was drunk, and they weren't there to be elevated or to listen to comedy.

"If people haven't paid, they're not vested in my show, which means I'm not growing as a performer either."

Clean also describes the tone of Dhava's comedy. "If you point out something that is unique or interesting or weird, the audience reacts to you saying something true, versus something that is negative or meanspirited. It never works to come across as if you're attacking anyone."

"NERD COMEDY" HITS THE NETWORKS

In January 2010, Dhava was hired to host the pilot season of High School Quiz Show, a public television program created at WGBH in Boston. In an interview with BuzzerBlog head writer and editor Alex Davis prior to the show's March 2010 debut. Dhava said: 'As a former smart kid, I have a lot of nerd-pride. I love that this show celebrates brainy students. There's already a lot of emphasis on the competitive nature of sports; now smart kids will have their moment."

Not only did smart students shine in their moment, but the show, which won a New England Emmy, also illuminated another aha moment for Dhava: The desire to create and eventually launch her own show.

"Stand-up is like a basic, fundamental science, or the physics of entertainment," she says, "It's a simple formula: you, the microphone, and the audience. You write, produce, act, and create.

"I still love business consulting, and the chance to get in front of people and solve problems. I realized I could combine (comedy and consulting) by producing a humorous show that teaches people something."

This fall, Dhaya teamed with One Economy, a San Francisco non-profit focused on bettering the lives of low-income households through inspirational media and the use of technology, to create a series entitled Everyday Tech. The pilot premiered in October 2011 on the Public Internet Channel.

"The series addresses how we can use simple technology to make our lives better without the extremely not-funny instruction manuals that are the norm on the web," explains Dhava, who hosts the humorous videos. "The goal is that audiences will learn something while they are also busy laughing."

Within the next year, Dhaya also plans to introduce a routine of similar ilk, Nerd Nation, which she describes as a work in progress.

"Using myself as an example, this show will bring to light what it means to be a nerd, and why America needs nerds-particularly in economics and politics," she says. Dhaya envisions that Nerd Nation will roll out in several phases: first, a one-hour solo show, which she is already introducing as small segments in Dhaya was the first host of High School Quiz Show, now in its third season on Boston's WGBH.



BEAUTY, BRAINS & COMEDY.

"Ten years from now, I hope that I've written my book and that I'm hosting a television show where I humorously teach people about technology, science, and math."



LUSE MY WHOLF NAME WHEN I PERFORM, AND AFTER SHOWS I GET ASKED THE NUMBER-ONE DUMBEST QUESTION EVER: "IS LAKSHMINARAYANAN YOUR STAGE NAME?"

her stand-up routines; followed by filming for either PBS or the Discovery Channel; and, eventually, a book. The message linking all formats, Dhaya adds, is that learning-aka, "brainy stuff"-can be fun and funny.

"My goal is to debut a full solo show of Nerd Nation in front of a live audience within the next year," she says. In addition to personal reflections and recollections, Dhaya's research for the show includes interviews with fellow nerds. She's also committed to accepting speaking engagements that target girls who are interested in math and science.

Although originality is her hallmark, Dhaya can point to a cadre of comedians who have inspired her through the years: Carol Burnett, Lucille Ball, Tim Conway, Harvey Korman, Bill Cosby, and Jerry Seinfeld.

But the two topping her list—and who still get the biggest laughs—are her brother Venkat, who currently is completing his Ph.D. at Yale, and her mother, Hema, a software engineer. As her earliest audience, they also planted the seeds of what Dhaya will always consider her roots.

"Ten years from now, I hope that I've written my book and that I'm hosting a television show where I humorously teach people about technology, science, and math. But even then, I'd like to spend some portion of every week with my notebook of jokes, getting on stage and trying out my material.

"I'll always want to do bare-bones comedy." ◊

CROWD-PLEASERS

Dhaya's stand-up comedy acts prove that true life is funnier than fiction.

LAST NAME

(Continued from left) In what kind of world would "Lakshminarayanan" be the easy version? Sixteen letters, six syllables, My father's whole name is Arasanipalaivenkatachari Lakshminarayanan, Maybe that's why he goes by his stage name, "Dad."

GOING TO SCHOOL AT

At MIT, people said, "Wow that ratio must have been so good for you, all those guys and you?" Not really. Maybe I didn't have to compete against women for the one or two or 3.14159 cute guys, but my competition was R2D2 action figures and Battlestar Galactica reruns.

Wear Your Letters on Your Heart

International Badge Day • Monday, March 5, 2012

This celebration to honor sisterhood was started in 1997 by the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC). The date is generally recognized during March, which is also National Women's History Month and set aside for International Women's Day.

Participating in International Badge Day is easy, whether you're an alumna or a collegian. It's as simple as wearing your pin or your Fraternity letters with pride.



international badge day



1,561 REASONS O BE THETA LIFE LOYAL

There are many reasons to be Kappa Alpha Theta Life Loval—1.561 reasons, to be exact. Every one of the 1,561 Thetas who has enrolled in the Life Loyal program has done so for her own reason. Some enjoy the lifetime subscription to the printed version of this magazine, some enjoy wearing the beautifully crafted lapel pin, and others are simply proud to support our Fraternity.

Kappa Alpha Theta Life Loyal is an optional program for members who wish to further support our Fraternity financially. Revenue derived from memberships in the program supports an endowment of the Theta magazine and future educational and personal development programs for our collegians and alumnae. Life Loyal Thetas pay a one-time membership fee (\$299 or \$189 for 50-year-plus members) and receive exclusive benefits.

To learn more about Kappa Alpha Theta Life Loyal, please visit our website, www.thetalifeloyal.org/magazine or you may also contact Kristi Tucker, affinity program manager, ktucker@kappaalphatheta.org, or 800-526-1870.





- · a lifetime subscription to The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine
- a personalized wallet card
- · a handcrafted lapel pin to wear with pride
- · a limited-edition gift from our Life Loyal collection
- · and more!

JOIN THE FOLLOWING LIFE LOYAL MEMBERS WHO ENROLLED BETWEEN AUGUST 1 AND OCTOBER 31, 2011

B/INDIANA

Amy Gerrish Bennett Carey Thielemann Criswell

I/BUTLER

tochelle Galey Carroll Kerry O'Connor Nesbitt Valerie A Prieshoff

I/CORNELL

Margaret Nagel Gnegy

K/KANSAS

JoAnn McMillan Burhart

Γ∆/OHIO WESLEYAN

Sandra Walker Kell Priscilla Meacham Parker

M/ALLEGHENY

ny Edelman Carrick Nancy McCune Edelman

N/HANOVER

Angela Peckham Hewett

Jacqueline Legorreta Erdman Kerry Shield Olson

Π/ALBION

Brooke A. Reich Marilyn Van Zee Winquist

P/NEBRASKA

Lee Ellen Creasman Matzke Jennifer Dolphin Rottkamp

T/NORTHWESTERN

Amy Hagan Louis Sharon Coggan McBride Lisa Schousen Zott

Y/MINNESOTA

Marilyn Burton Megargel Audra L. Ragan

Φ/PACIFIC

imber N. Costantino Alana B. Pennington

Ψ/WISCONSIN

Susan Gielow Bakken Elizabeth Rideout Danner Nicole A. Nelson

Ω/UC BERKELEY

Elinor Burns Beck

AT/OHIO STATE

Janie McConnell Kinkley

AH/VANDERBILT

Eileen I. Campbell

AΘ/TEXAS

Carolyn FitzGerald Chapman

AA/WASHINGTON

Nancy Feasey Greenwood Vehrs

AM/MISSOURI

Susan Parsons Katherine E. Sheffield Martha Moss Taylor

AN/MONTANA

Gwen Calvin Letson

AE/OREGON

Lois Kronquist Moll

AO/OKLAHOMA

Kimberley Koontz Bayliss Sheila Unruh Bond Lauren M. Lindsey Meg Niemeyer Newville Carol Hood Pierce

AP/SOUTH DAKOTA

Marcia Blaseg Ridley

AΣ/WASHINGTON STATE

Suellyn Koontz Olson

AT/CINCINNATI

Laura Thul-Penza

AY/WASHBURN

AΦ/TULANE Katherine Heaton Delaney

AX/PURDUE

Marcia Hanf Clouser **Emily King Conner** Madonna Cord Matheson Doris Ward Mertz

AΨ/LAWRENCE

Margaret Banta Humleker

BIT/COLORADO STATE

Louise Dyer Weber

BA/ARIZONA

Erin Magee Sicotte

BE/OREGON STATE Annis Bailey Oetingei

BZ/OKLAHOMA STATE

Carolyn Ward Barnes Jerry Ann Lewis Dunn Mary Dobry Johnson Sue Stalker Murray Lisa Jean Peerson

BH/PENNSYLVANIA

Edythe Taylor Sweeney

BO/IDAHO

Gretchen Evans Beatty Laurie Anderson Cosolito

BI/COLORADO

Courtney B. Sembler

BK/DRAKE

Jennifer Goforth Hock Barbara Ellis Parsons

BM/NEVADA

Donna Hanley Andress Marilyn James Hill Stephanie Sciarani

BN/FLORIDA STATE

Lisa M. DeAngeli Suzanne Gibson Glagola Cynthia Vance Titus Barbara Syfrett Westholm

BE/UCLA

Debra Belisle Ryker

BO/IOWA

Jayne Clausen Hansen Jody L. Johnson Susan Byers Patrick



ВП/MICHIGAN STATE

BP/DUKE

Claire Rickard Palmer Joanne Shepherd Smith

BΩ/COLORADO COLLEGE

Constance Koehler Frank

ΓΔ/GEORGIA

Alexandra C. Hutchens Lillian Powell Martin Ellen Gurley Morris

FE/WESTERN ONTARIO

Anthea J. Girdwood June Sweetnam Vev

ΓΘ/CONNECTICUT

Nancy Clark Millette

FI/KENTUCKY

Ann Rickert Kloeppel

I'N/NORTH DAKOTA STATE

Marilynn Alme Peterson

TP/UC SANTA BARBARA

Kimberly Auger White

ΓΣ/SAN DIEGO STATE

Patricia Ward Day

IT/TULSA

Carol Capshaw Hudson (enrolled 4/2011) Julie Laudon Twilley

TY/MIAMI

Sally Carenbauer Marvin Nancy Bush Millhouse Susan Putman Moran Linda Workum Shad

ΓΦ/TEXAS TECH

Emily Montgomery Flemming Amanda L. Martin Katherine Mayberry Morrow Renee Bergenheier Underwood

FX/FRESNO STATE

Leigh-Ann Pok Fleming

Mary Ann Dunkum Elizabeth Oltman Whitehead (enrolled Suzanne Luton Woodruff

ΓΩ/AUBURN

Ashley Spruill Reed

AA/WHITMAN COLLEGE

Joann McGillivray Mines

ΔE/ARIZONA STATE

Catherine Ferry Coleman

ΔH/KANSAS STATE

Caroline Kline Wake

ΔΘ/FLORIDA

Anne-Marie Gerrity Ayers Virginia Rubley Phillips

AI/PUGET SOUND

ΔK/LSU

Catherine D. Rigby

AN/ARKANSAS

Nancy Elliott Hainley

ΔO/ALABAMA

Natasha J. Parke

ΔP/SOUTH FLORIDA

Susan Davis Kelley

ΔΣ/BALL STATE

Nancy Baasse Rainier

ΔΨ/EASTERN KENTUCKY

Kimberly A. Harmon

ΔΦ/CLEMSON

Lisa Broderick LaPorta

ΔΩ/TEXAS A&M

Gwendolyn Davis Lipetska

EE/BAYLOR

Jill Hilscher Sentlingar DDS Jayree Copeland Shaw

EH/CENTRE

Logan R. Marksbury

EØ/STETSON

Carol Zimmerly Graham

EI/WESTMINSTER

Emerson M. Stuckart Susie Gerhart Stuerman

EA/DICKINSON

EII/BUCKNELL

ET/YALE

Erica Lee-Benedetto

EΩ/WASHINGTON & JEFFERSON

ZO/CAL POLYTECHNIC STATE

April Lea Fleeman

ZK/SOUTH CAROLINA

ZM/MIT

Elizabeth Pula

ZP/UC SAN DIEGO

Robyn Powell Pereia

ZT/DELAWARE

ZΩ/LOYOLA MARYMOUNT

Sharon Thorpe Tiraschi

HP/JAMES MADISON

Jacqueline Knight Jessica E. Lynn

HΣ/CHAPMAN

Brianna Grinbaum

THETA LIFE LOYAL—ELIZABETH LARSON

Kappa Alpha Theta doesn't have an alumnae chapter in Japan, but that hasn't stopped Elizabeth Larson, Upsilon/Minnesota, from being an active alumna.

"I first read about Theta Life Loyal in The Magazine. My parents send me care packages once a month and they include the Theta magazine that they receive at our family home in Wisconsin."

Larson is a platoon commander for Marine Air Support Squadron 2 at Futenma, Okinawa, Japan, where she is responsible for the training of 18 Marines, including their tactical proficiency training. She also organizes administrative tasks for her platoon; paperwork, awards, minor disciplinary actions, and mentorship. It's a huge responsibility, but it's a job for which Larson feels she's been well prepared.

"The biggest thing I learned from Theta was how to lead," Larson said. "I was president of Upsilon Chapter for two years. I experienced growth in maturity, responsibility, organizational skills, tact, and patience; I credit much of my decision to join the Marine Corps to those two years."

Kappa Alpha Theta and the United States Marine Corps (USMC) are organizations with entirely different missions, but her close relationships with fellow Marines and allegiance to the USMC feels familiar-akin to the feelings she carries for Kappa Alpha Theta. And it's for those reasons that she made the decision to become a member of Theta Life Loyal.

"In the Marine Corps, we have a saying: Once a Marine, always a Marine," Larson said. "I will be leaving active duty next spring to go to Marquette University Law School, but I will always retain the title of a United States Marine officer. The same is true with membership in Theta. Since November 5, 2004, I have been a proud member of our Fraternity, and even though I am a college graduate, I am still a loyal member. I owe so much to Kappa Alpha Theta; being a part of Life Loyal is a reaffirmation of my commitment." \(\rightarrow \)



ADVANCING SORORITY

NATIONAL PANHELLENIC CONFERENCE 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

By Jennifer M. Siler, AΔΠ, editor of the Adelphean

The National Panhellenic Conference delegation members, executive directors, inter/ national presidents, editors, NPC office staff members, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors and guests gathered at the Hilton Austin Airport in Austin, Texas, October 14-16 for the 2011 annual meeting. Throughout the three-day event, various groups and committees met to discuss the business of the Conference, learn from guest speakers, and plan for the future.

"Advancing Sorority Together" was the theme of the annual meeting. In her opening remarks, NPC Chairman Eve Riley, Delta Delta Delta, told attendees that sorority women are telling their stories effectively and that can be measured by the increased number of women participating in formal recruitment—a figure that is up by eight percent this year over last year. In addition to increased numbers, NPC member organizations are doing a better job of retaining their members.

Important accomplishments during this biennium include a total review of the NPC bylaws, a partial review of the Unanimous Agreements, and a report on the results of the Measurable Outcomes Committee. "But we must wake up. The world has fundamentally changed, and we must adapt, for our future depends on it," said Riley. For the sorority experience to continue to be relevant, local alumnae advisors must be trained to better prepare them to serve as role models and work with our collegiate members to get more done, she continued,

"We have to step out of our comfort zone and do what needs to be done and make sure the experience we provide is true to our founders," said Riley. "The state of NPC is great, I'm pleased with our accomplishments of the past and excited about the possibilities for the future."

Friday evening, Dr. Lori S. White, Sigma Kappa, vicepresident for student affairs at Southern Methodist University, discussed the future of higher education in the 21st century and the impact of NPC. More growth is expected in the number of Hispanic, African American, Asian and international students and less growth among Caucasian students. "Students will be more diverse with different aspirations and expectations. They will be more employment-oriented," said White. "Colleges will be more expensive, and students will have less time and money for extra activities."

> To reach its target group, White said, NPC organizations need to be viable to the diverse student population. She posed a question to the audience: Why hasn't our recruitment model changed over time? "If future students are going to be so different, we should consider doing things differently to attract women," she

White further explained that the growing and changing student population will not have as much exposure to fraternity/ sorority life, "It will be important to make sure Greek life is a value-added experience by offering a

greater focus and positive impact on a person's career goals. Pay more attention to women's self-esteem and address gender-related issues," she advised.

Saturday morning featured a town hall meeting with presentations by Kyle Niederpruem, Kappa Delta; Erin Nemenoff, Theta Phi Alpha; and Anne Emmerth, Chi Omega, Niederpruem, owner of Kyle Communications, a public relations and social media strategy firm in Indianapolis, addressed "The Brand Promise." A brand is a promise to your audience, constituents, customers or members. "Branding fails when research doesn't support the brand, when a key message isn't based in reality, and when the core audience doesn't believe the brand promise," said Niederpruem, "A solid and reputable brand backed by key messages-a memorable, easy-to-repeat, strong and simple fact that is incontrovertible—weathers most media crises, if you keep the brand promise."

Niederpruem then detailed what she's doing next for

- Updating the brand message and platform
- Creating FAOs for use by member groups
- Producing a fill-in-the-blank crisis communication plan for member groups
- Conducting a media training refresher courses for groups coming to Indianapolis

Nemenoff, chairman of the Measurable Outcomes

A REVIEW OF NPC **BYLAWS RESULTED IN** THE FOLLOWING LEGISLATION.

- Associate member groups may now have one nonvoting representative on the board of directors and no more than three alternate representatives.
- The number of board of director votes needed to accept an active or associate member was changed from five-sixths to three-fourths.
- Active member groups delinquent in paying dues may be present at the meeting but will have no vote.
- Any vacancy to the appointed positions on the Executive Committee that occurs in the first six months of a term will be considered a full term when calculating time served
- The bylaws can be amended by a three-fourths vote of board of directors members.
- Regarding the Unanimous Agreements (UAs), it was clarified under the section titled Jurisdiction of Panhellenic Associations (Section II, 1, C, vi) that in the area of infringements, polling means "Surveying to collect data that reflects a chapter's internal information or requiring documents that are considered confidential material regarding the chapter's internal operations."
- In the Panhellenic Compact, legislation was passed that defined further the membership acceptance guidelines and clarified the so-called calendar year rule allowing an eligible woman to participate in primary recruitment if she had previously declined a bid, did not receive a bid, had her pledge broken, or had a COB pledge broken. The clarification states that she is ineligible to be pledged until the beginning of the next year's primary membership recruitment period.
- Collegiate membership dues paid by NPC member groups will increase by 3 percent per collegiate member, effective January 1, 2013, It was also resolved that annual reviews conducted by the Budget and Finance Committee recommending further increases to collegiate membership dues will be presented to the board of directors at the annual meeting.

Committee and a doctoral research fellow with the Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, reported on the 2010-2011 NPC survey compiled by the committee. Survey results show organizational, operational and programming information-along with bragging points.

Highlights include:

- 26 NPC member groups reported a total of 4,292,824 initiated women.
- 26 NPC member groups reported 3,031 collegiate chapters.
- 22 NPC member groups reported 67 chartered chapters.
- 24 NPC member groups reported that 92,294 of the women pledged were initiated (102,284 total women pledged), for a 90.2 percent initiation/ retention rate.
- 12 NPC member groups reported that the average new member GPA for fall 2010 was 3.09.
- 19 NPC member groups reported that 1,063 scholarships were awarded for undergraduate study.
- 16 NPC member groups reported that 30,380 undergraduates are housed in property owned by an NCP member organization.
- NPC member groups' national philanthropic activities raised \$16,659,749.

Emmerth, formerly the executive director of Chi Omega, reported on the Measurable Outcomes Committee retention pilot study that measured Panhellenic-wide retention at six target campuses. The pilot study showed that NPC member groups do a great job of initiating their members, and retention through graduation varies significantly by campus. Although unable to make a blanket statement about NPC member groups' contribution to campus retention, campus-by-campus we could make a strong case that sororities help schools retain students.

Nicki Meneley, Alpha Chi Omega, NPC executive director, showcased the RecruitmentPREP toolkit that will help prepare women for recruitment. Developed in conjunction with Interactive Collegiate Solutions (www.icsmg.com), this interactive website allows women to learn about the recruitment process in general and offers campus-specific recruitment information resulting in a personalized handbook for the potential new member. The tool will be available for all campuses and NPC member organizations in fall 2012.

After the new Executive Committee was installed. Jane Sutton, Alpha Xi Delta, NPC chairman for the 2011-2013 biennium, closed the meeting with these words: "We can reflect on the past, but we must realize that the world is moving faster than ever. We must adapt to changing times, but hold fast to the principles that have gotten us this far. When it comes down to it, look to the sister on your left and your right and ask how they will strengthen your potential."

THE CONFERENCE ALSO PASSED THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE UNANIMOUS AGREEMENTS:

- Sovereign Rights Protection: This UA ensures that all College Panhellenic documents and policies do not infringe on the sovereignty. rights and privileges of the individual NPC member fraternities and the NPC Unanimous Agreements.
- NPC Hazing Policy: This UA added the NPC Resolution on Hazing to the Standards of Ethical Conduct section.

THESE LEGISLATIVE ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE:

- An amendment to change the number of five-sixths votes to a unanimous vote of the board of directors to pass Unanimous Agreements.
- A clarification in the section on Jurisdiction of Panhellenic Associations under College Panhellenic Associations (Section II, 1,C, iii) to allow a College Panhellenic to set a minimum GPA for potential new members.

2011-2013 **NPC EXECUTIVE** COMMITTEE

Chairman: Jane Sutton, AEA

Vice chairman: Jean Mrasek, XΩ

Alumnae Panhellenics Committee chairman: Mary Jane Beach, KAO

Budget and Finance Committee chairman: Josette Kaufman, $\Phi\Sigma\Sigma$

College Panhellenics Committee chairman: Julie Johnson, KA

"AN EXTRAORDINARY LEADER"

During the closing banquet of the NPC annual meeting, Lissa Bradford, Alpha Eta/Vanderbilt, received the NPC Distinguished Service Award for exemplary service.

NPC chairman from 1997-1999, Bradford was cited by Jane Sutton, NPC chairman, for her "courage, advocacy and vision" serving the Conference "in the most unselfish way possible." Currently Theta's Sesquicentennial Committee chairman, Bradford served on the Fraternity's NPC delegation for more than 25 vears, dealing dealt with important issues such as alcohol-free housing, governance, recruitment, and NPC archives. Prior to her NPC service she was Kappa Alpha Theta president from 1980 to 1984.

Bradford's profound effect on the fraternity movement has been recognized on numerous occasions. She received the Order of the Star



Lissa Luton Bradford, AH/Vanderbilt (right), with other former Theta presidents Mary Jane Parker Beach, BN/Florida State, and Karen Albrecht Ledbetter, FT/Tulsa.

and Shield from Phi Delta Theta, only the third person to earn this highest honor to a non-Phi Delta Theta member; the Distinguished Service award from Sigma Nu; the Order of the Diamond from Kappa Delta, which is presented to "... outstanding women who have made extraordinary contributions to the Panhellenic world"; and the Distinguished Service Award from the Fraternity Executives Association, the second woman to be honored for her work toward the betterment of all college fraternal organizations.

The Nashville Alumnae Chapter and Lissa Bradford's friends established the Melissa (Lissa) Luton Bradford/Nashville Alumnae Chapter scholarship with Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation in 1986. The scholarship benefits a woman in her senior year of undergraduate study and has been awarded to 27 women representing 24 Theta chapters.

At the NPC closing banquet, Pete Smithhisler, president and CEO of the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC), was also honored, receiving the Executive Committee Interfraternal Service Award. ◊ We must adapt to changing times. but hold fast to the principles that have gotten us this far."

IAMA THE STORIES THAT CONNECT US

How can we define Kappa Alpha Theta? How can we quantify happy memories? How can we describe the power of someone being there when you need her? How can we tell the story of a lifetime of sisterhood?

There are, in fact, countless stories—poignant, moving, inspiring—each an illustration of one Theta's membership in our Fraternity. Thetas come from different backgrounds, different chapters, different mind-sets. We live all over the world; we are ages 18 to 100-plus. Yet we share common goals, ideals, and a ritual that has touched our spirit—a commitment to the highest scholarship, the widest influence for good, and the moral code of love.

Theta is not about black and gold pansies. It is not about kites or letter T-shirts or catchy songs. Theta is made up of people and

experiences—of stories—and these stories connect us to one another.

I Am a Theta, a main section on Theta's website, provides a place for Thetas to share their stories of lifetime membership. showcases the emotions and bonds that form the basis of our sisterhood, and nurtures a connection to our Fraternity. Individual Thetas may comment on stories as well as share their own stories, even illustrate them by uploading a photograph or a video.

Whether you are a newly initiated member or are celebrating many decades of membership, you have a Theta story. Take a moment to remember why you are a Theta by posting your story (See "Share Your Theta Story" at the right), and perhaps others will remember why they are, too. ◊

SHARE YOUR THETA STORY

TEXT Send your document to iamatheta@kappaalphatheta. org. Limit your written submission to 300 words or less. Please include a 50-word description accompanying your submission, as well as a title. A photo is required with each text submission.

PHOTOS Attach a high-resolution (300 ppi) photo (TIF or JPG format) in an email to iamatheta@kappaalphatheta. org. Include in the email the names of everyone featured in the photo. Please verify that you own the photo or have secured permission for it to be used.

VIDEOS Submit a 50-word description of the video. a title, and the name and chapter of the submitter to iamatheta@kappaalphatheta. org. We will then send you instructions on how to send us your video. Limit the length of your video to three minutes.

Please know that your content will not be restricted to Thetas only but will be available to all website visitors. All content (text, images, and video) will be subject to editing and posting at the discretion of the administrator. Content must adhere to the values we promised to uphold as members of Kappa Alpha Theta. The submitter grants rights for all content to be used by the Fraternity in publications, etc. Submitted content is assumed to be approved by all parties included.





PROVE ME

BY AMANDA KASPER, BK/DRAKE

Reprinted from the National CASA blog (http://blog. CASAforChildren.org), @ 2011, with permission from the National CASA Association.

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN YOUR LIFE? THE THING THAT INSPIRES YOU, THAT LIGHTS YOU UP INSIDE? THE THING THAT YOU'D FIGHT FOR, THAT YOU'D RISK IT ALL FOR?

I CAN.

FOR ME, IT'S BEING A CASA VOLUNTEER.

LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING YOU PROBABLY DON'T EXPECT: I'M ONLY 25.

Then I first learned about the CASA cause, I had just joined Theta as a freshman in college. For four years, I raised money and awareness on campus and in the community to prevent child abuse and neglect. All the while, I knew that I had to wait, wait until I was old enough to become an advocate myself.

After graduating, I contacted my local CASA chapter. During my interview, the volunteer coordinator said something that I'll never forget: "Training begins in two weeks. You're welcome to join, but you'll need to prove me wrong. Too many people your age start with a bang, but they disappear when it becomes too serious, too much work, too real."

I was determined to

be the exception.

As the youngest person in my training class of 18, I felt very small. My heart skipped a lot during those six weeks. I questioned my strength, my perseverance, and my ability to handle the emotional challenges of being an advocate.

But more than nerves or fear, I felt something else, a driving force that made me know I was in exactly the right place. I've been an active CASA volunteer for two and one-half years now, and the most important thing I've learned is something they can't explain in training. It's something you only understand when you meet your CASA kids. Once you begin to build a relationship with children whose lives are so broken, you realize that our greatest responsibility as advocates is to hear the things that cannot be said.

As CASA volunteers, we get the incredible opportunity to see more of a whole picture than anyone else in their lives: by visiting our CASA kids at home, at school, in daycare, and in supervised visits; by checking in with their foster parents, their biological parents, their easeworkers, their doctors and their therapists; by watching, by listening and by paying attention. They're often too young to report their fears, their dreams, or the obstacles that stand in their way. That's our job. Right now-today-this is what we can do.

Being a CASA volunteer is one of the hardest things I've ever done. But it's also the most exhilarating, amazing thing. It's the thing that makes me most believe in the greater good, in giving back, in going above and beyond. It has changed me in my core, in the way I see people and parents, children and circumstances. It has changed the way I look at the future.

In March of this year, I received a full scholarship from my CASA program in Lake County, Ill., to attend the National CASA Conference in Chicago. That week, I felt empowered, inspired, and motivated. I found a renewed passion and a much greater understanding of why we do what we do as advocates. One of the most meaningful moments for me, though, came when the woman who interviewed me nearly two years ago pulled me aside and told me, "You're here because you define

the heart and soul of a CASA volunteer. You're here because you proved me wrong."

This August, I was accepted into graduate school. I was heartbroken to be moving out of state, but I was determined to stay involved with my CASA kids. Thankfully, because of my program's support and with the help of my CASA partner (who still lives near our CASA kids), I can continue to advocate on my case. I connect on the phone with them every couple of weeks, and I send letters and photos to them

from my school. I hope that, by staying in touch with them as long as their case is still ongoing, I can teach them about permanency—that I care about what happens to them, even though they don't see me all of the time. That I am always thinking of them. That more than anything, I believe in them. 0

Amanda Kasper, BK/Drake with Michael Piraino, National CASA CEO.

PHILANTHROPIC MISSION STATEMENT

In support of Kappa Alpha Theta's international service philanthropy, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), the Fraternity endeavors to engage its collegian and alumnae members to provide support for and advancement of court-appointed volunteer advocacy for abused and nealected children.

HOW WE HELP

Theta members provide personal support by volunteering their time in local CASA offices, making toys or items for CASA children, hostessing events for CASA children, or assisting with CASA fundraisers, Many Thetas, like Amanda Kasper, complete the training to become CASA volunteers themselves.

Our greatest responsibility as advocates is to hear the things that cannot be said."

children.org/blog/

PLAN OF ASPIRATIONS (revisited)

BY AMY HAYNER KATES, AΦ/TULANE, FRATERNITY PRESIDENT

In the Summer 2011 issue of this magazine, I had the pleasure of introducing you to the Fraternity's Plan of Aspirations. Adopted this spring, the Plan supports our mission—yesterday, today, and tomorrow, Kappa Alpha Theta exists to nurture each member throughout her college and alumnae experience and to offer a lifelong opportunity for social, intellectual, and moral growth as she meets the higher and broader demands of mature life—as well as our true promise—loyalty to cultured womanhood. It is designed as a blueprint for the next five years ... and beyond.

One of the four aspirations in our plan is "We align resources to best execute the mission of Kappa Alpha Theta," and the first goal in achieving that aspiration is to "Allocate financial, human, and technology resources

to optimize our strengths '

As the first Greek-letter fraternity for women, Theta has historically been a leader and an innovator. We could not have flourished for nearly 150 years without anticipating trends and responding to the needs of a changing society. As we strive to best serve our members, we must acknowledge when our resources are being stretched to their limits and be ready to evolve and to transform our operations.

Our previous structure of seven standing committees and layers of approval had evolved over a period of 13 years and had become cumbersome and rather inflexible. At its August meeting, Grand Council developed a framework designed to address and meet the current needs of the Fraternity. At the close of the meeting, Council tasked Suzanne McLemore, Fraternity vice-president finance and facilities (a leader in the development of the Plan of Aspirations); Julie Gilpin, Fraternity vice-president public relations (a human relations and recruiting professional); and Betsy Corridan (more than 25 years on Theta's staff), executive director, with completing the plan for the reorganization of Theta's workforce. On September 13, Council adopted this plan, to be substantially completed by January 1, 2012. It is with high hopes for our future that I share the key components with you now.

- Kappa Alpha Theta will continue to be organized by districts.
- Programming titles (college, alumnae, education, finance and facilities, membership, and public relations) for Fraternity vice-presidents will be eliminated. The elected Council will be composed of a president and six vicepresidents.
- All Fraternity officers will be appointed by Grand Council. Committees will be established based on programming needs of the membership.
- Each appointed officer is the chairman of a committee. The alumnae, chapter budget,
- college, and recruitment committees will comprise volunteers who are assigned by district and are called district directors. Other committees (NPC, government relations, heritage, investment, service and philanthropy, chapter marketing and communications, volunteer recruitment, extension, chapter compliance, risk prevention, advisor training, college chapter officer training, leadership development, member orientation, scholarship wellness, and ritual) will comprise specialist volunteers.
- Adequate staff will be hired to support success. Fraternity officers will report to staff and to Grand Council through the executive director.

Perhaps you are wondering about the rationale—in addition to streamlining operations—for reorganizing our structure. A flatter organizational chart reflects the equality that Grand Council sees among the various programming and operational functions of the Fraternity. While all functions are important, none is viewed as more important than the others. Placing the responsibility for committee assignments with the committee chairmen will invest responsibility with the person most familiar with the need and offers her flexibility and discretion in accomplishing the work of her committee. Finally, staff oversight of operations and programs will ensure greater continuity over time and among the various areas.

Perhaps you are wondering about the timing of this reorganization. Grand Council strongly believes that programming titles for vice-presidents should be eliminated as quickly as possible so that the 2012-14 Council can be elected purely as a governing board. We really struggled with the timing of this change, taking place as it does in the middle of the biennium. Ultimately, we were elected to keep the welfare of the Fraternity at the forefront of our decisions, and that obligation is driving this action. We truly believe that this change is in the best interest of the Fraternity and that the time is right to do it now.

Grand Council has the authority to interpret The Kappa Alpha Theta Constitution, and we have determined—upon advice from counsel—that this reorganization is within Council's responsibility as the governing body of the Fraternity in the interim between Grand Conventions (Article VI, Section 1, A, 3, and Article XI, Section 2, B). Grand Convention delegates will convene in June 2012 and have the opportunity to ratify amendments to the Bylaws and enact amendments to the Constitution.

We recognize that these are bold changes! Yet current research about efficient organization of women's groups reveals that success is based more on horizontal/flat structures than on a top-heavy hierarchy. In addition to keeping the welfare of our Fraternity as our primary objective, it was also important that we offer meaningful opportunities for wide and wise human service within our volunteer structure. By adopting this plan, we believe we can best serve our members and fulfill Kappa Alpha Theta's promise to foster social, intellectual, and moral growth. ◊

We truly believe that this change is in the best interest of the Fraternity and that the time is right to do it now."

CONNECTIONS

FT. LAUDERDALE/MIAMI. Interested in finding the perfect home or condo to buy, sell, or rent in the South Florida area? Contact Laura Lang, Intercoastal Realty, 954-288-6336 or LFLang1501@yahoo.com.

KIAWAH ISLAND, SC. 2-bedroom, 2-bath villa on lagoon in East Beach, 10 miles of pristine beach, bike trails, world-class golf and tennis. 17 miles to historic Charleston. Rent weekly or monthly. Contact Theta owner, 765-463-7474 or tennisvilla@comcast.net.

PORT ARANSAS, TX. Rent Texas's best beachfront penthouse. 3 BR, 2.5 BA. See bestbeachfrontpenthouse.com. Call Seagull Condominiums, 800-543-0818; ask for 1105.

PROVENCE, FRANCE. Rent my French home near Peter Mayle's favorite villages, Gordes, Bonnieux, Rousillon; taste wines of Chateauneuf du Pape and visit Avignon. Reasonable rates by the week. Contact Theta owner Judi Summers, 912-638-0036 or judithsummers@att.net.

SAN DIEGO. 2 BR 2 BA in beautiful Rancho Bernardo, minutes from shopping, beaches, world-class golf, LaJolla, Del Mar, and downtown San Diego. Fully furnished, beautifully decorated. Rent weekly or monthly. Contact Theta owner, 585-223-1153 or margiemcnamara@yahoo.com.

VERO BEACH. Theta Realtor can help find you the perfect condo or home to rent/purchase in an exceptional beach community. Contact Nancy Browning Freiheit, Dale Sorensen Real Estate, 772-321-2856 or nfreiheit@yahoo.com.

KAO CONNECTIONS ADS

To purchase a Connections ad, please:

- 1 Type or print ad message (limited to 35 words per ad).
- 2 Write your check payable to KAΘ [Ads are \$40 per issue; indicate desired issue(s).]
- 3 Include your name, chapter/school, mailing address, email and phone.
- 4 submit to the editor. Copy deadline dates & mailing address are on page 2.

IN THE

IT'S A CELEBRATION!

KAPPA ALPHA THETA FOUNDATION AWARENESS MONTH

Don't miss our special Foundation section in the Spring 2012 issue.

STATE OF THE FRATERNITY 2011

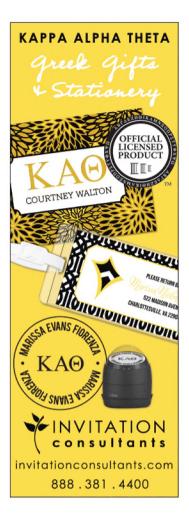
The year in review, including new chapters, programs, and service opportunities.

MEMBER RECRUITMENT GUIDE

Tools for recommending a potential new member and introducing a legacy.

PLUS ... STORIES OF SISTERHOOD

Meet a notable Theta in our profile article, learn why one Theta enrolled in the Life Loyal program, and discover one sister's True Promise.



www.kappaalphatheta.org

friend us;











Well, hello.

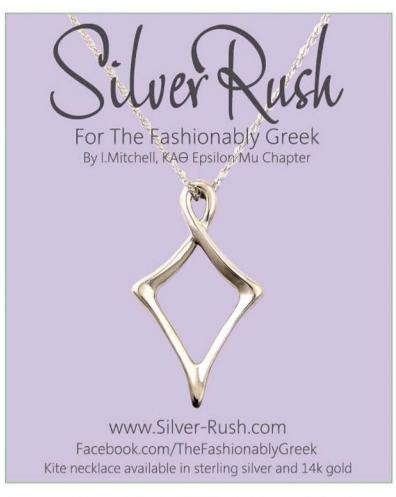
Kappa Alpha Theta members could get a special discount from GEICO.

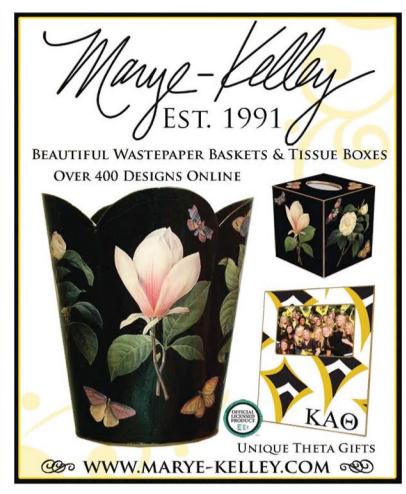
Mention your membership when you get a quote and you could save more!

Every quote supports your organization.

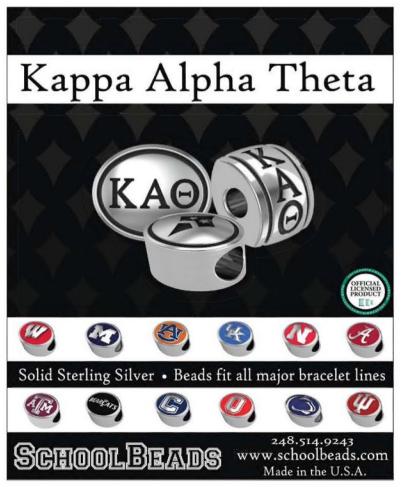












A/DEPAUW

Lucretia Swinehart Daily; 1927, July 2011 Gloria Nowack Guttman; 1958, December 2010 Beatrice Moore Kimball; 1942, February 2011 Alice Banker Miles; 1936, May 2011 Joan Henke Purvis; 1949, April 2011 Margaret Fish Rockwood; 1944, August 2011 Josephine Spear; 1936, June 2011

B/INDIANA

Marjorie Voorhees McCall; 1935, July 2011

T/BUTLER

Jane Cooksey Cassel; 1950, July 2011

Mary Alice Huyler Hagen; 1951, February 2011 Julia (Judy) Gerstenberger Morris; 1952, September 2011 Betty Weldon Mosser; 1948, July 2011 Janis Olsen Wallin; 1968, February 2010

I/CORNELL

Emily Bates Douglas; 1951, August 2011

K/KANSAS

Jean Fergus Harris; 1943, March 2011 Virginia Kline Johnson; 1942, July 2011 Josephine Stevens Power; 1938, July 2011

A/VERMONT

Katharine Tupper Fugiel: 1936, June 2011

ΓΔ/OHIO WESLEYAN

Clare Collord Barnes; 1937, March 2010 Judith Lappin Coleman; 1946, August 2011 Mildred Stillwagon Gabrielson; 1930, April 2011 Marjorie Bierce Hartz; 1936, March 2011 Winifred Thompson McCandlish; 1941, July 2010 Marjorie Smith Pilcher; 1952, July 2011

M/ALLEGHENY

Ruth Salisbury Reid; 1939, May 2011 Barbara Johnston Zarbock; 1937, December 2010

Gail Hulbert Driscoll: 1945. September 2011 Beverly Dolby Rutkin; 1947, September 2011

P/NEBRASKA

Marguerite Lemon Maly; 1942, August 2011

T/NORTHWESTERN

Barbara Carlson Burchsted: 1946, March 2011 Mary Berkey Schele; 1934, December 2010

Y/MINNESOTA

Barbara Rounds; 1938, December 2010

Φ/PACIFIC

Marie Arbios Boyle; 1961, August 2011 Thalia Allen Conviser; 1959, September 2011

X/SYRACUSE

Virginia Marty Weidig; 1930, July 2011

Ψ/WISCONSIN

Mary Timbers Bostwick; 1947, May 2011 Louise Major Damen; 1941, November 2010 Marcia Claflin Hall; 1951, April 2010

Ω/UC BERKELEY

Virginia Zinn Balsdon; 1957, September 2011 Mary Shand deFremery; 1934, September 2010 Ynez Pattiani Graham; 1936, May 2011

AΓ/OHIO STATE

Diane Lee D'Annessa; 1956, November 2010 Jane Anderson Grunewald; 1948, August 2011 Jane Waddell Hendrix; 1928, April 2011 Muriel Younger Henry; 1936, March 2011

AΘ/TEXAS

Margaret Peterson Anderson; 1943, July 2011 Nanette Wright Ayres; 1947, July 2011 Louise Spalding Burdine; 1931, September 2010 Marie Williams Decker; 1940, May 2011

Katherine Thomson Greiner; 1949, July 2011 Margaret McKean Love; 1944, September 2011 Le Becca Wills Paddock; 1936, November 2010 Shirley Scales Weber; 1929, June 2011

AA/WASHINGTON

Barbara Robbins Anderson: 1933. February 2011 Mona Riach Biddle; 1945, September 2011 Maryhelen Grande Fisher; 1940, September 2011 Beatrice Cutler Hodgkins; 1951, August 2011 Sue Shafer Stenstrom; 1949, February 2011

AM/MISSOURI

Alida Leinberger Cordes; 1948, February 2009

AE/OREGON

Carolyn Silva Chambers; 1950, August 2011

AO/OKLAHOMA

Sondra Clift DeRoulet; 1956, April 2011 Sandra Davis Malone; 1955, August 2011 Barbara Payne Turner; 1942, August 2010 Marion Rumsey Wilson; 1939, August 2011

AΠ/NORTH DAKOTA

Helen Rice Sorlie; 1940, April 2010

AP/SOUTH DAKOTA

Mary Jane Treganza Ronayne; 1954, February 2010

AΣ/WASHINGTON STATE

Florence Catherine Johnson; 1940, May 2011

AT/CINCINNATI

Morton Brown Gusweiler; 1929, August 2011 Ames Auburn Latta; 1951, August 2011

AY/WASHBURN

Jeanette Edmonds Bowen; 1954, October 2010 Margie Mote Merchant; 1937, March 2011 Janice Kelly Spohn; 1952, June 2011

AX/PURDUE

Dorothy Reynolds Adle; 1931, April 2011 Joan Baugh Land; 1948, October 2011 Louise Schickler Rogers; 1938, September 2010

AΨ/LAWRENCE

Dorothy Thompson Arrison; 1944, January 2011 Barbara Arado Beckman; 1951, August 2011

AΩ/PITTSBURGH

Jean Smull Wedd; 1941, April 2011

BB/RANDOLPH MACON

Mary McCann Dunning; 1936, July 2011 Donna Irwin Stover; 1951, June 2011

BT/COLORADO STATE

Evadyn Lyon MacLeod; 1944, April 2011 Beverly Anderson Miller; 1944, July 2011 Shirley Robertson Trumbauer; 1949, July 2011

BΔ/ARIZONA

Ann Smith Black; 1943, March 2011 Jane Keesling Trevor; 1944, May 2011 Shirley Snyder Wagner; 1937, August 2011 Elizabeth Green Welles; 1943, August 2011

BE/OREGON STATE

Margaret Boles Hoyt; 1945, August 2011 Dolores Brophy Sullivan; 1956, July 2011

BK/DRAKE

Roberta Sanderson Parson; 1962, January 2011

BA/WILLIAM & MARY

Jean Boyd Lacy; 1943, July 2010

BM/NEVADA

Jane Beloso Avansino; 1966, July 2011 Elizabeth Hannifan Creswell; 1966, November 2010 Norma Hall Doyle; 1946, September 2011 Viola Sorensen Herrick; 1942, September 2011 Jo Ann Record Sorensen; 1940, August 2011 Annette Leighton Suverkrup; 1943, September 2010

BN/FLORIDA STATE

Julia Banks Asbury; 1944, May 2011 Margaret Schmidli; 1935, May 2011

BE/UCLA

Marion Nichols Critchlow; 1944, July 2011 Cris Evatt Williams; 1962, March 2011

Barbara Dodsworth Heap; 1937, June 2011 Jacqueline Hunter Klaus; 1954, July 2010 Naomi Brown Kuhlman: 1943. November 2010 Jane Chisholm Robertson; 1961, September 2011

ВП/MICHIGAN STATE

Elizabeth McKay Bertram; 1941, June 2011 Susan Perry Copeland: 1978, June 2011 Joy Anderson Lindstrom; 1954, August 2010

BΣ/SMU

Mary Hrdlicka Charlton; 1959, October 2010 Donna Alexander Currier; 1955, September 2011 Mary Jane Murphey Harmon; 1943, July 2011 Julie Alvssa Richardson Procter: 1979, April 2011 Babette Johnson Robb; 1942, August 2011

BT/DENISON

Sally Eshelman Baird; 1954, August 2011

BΦ/PENN STATE

Edythe Rutter Cardon; 1932, September 2011

BX/ALBERTA

Eva Bailie Foster; 1952, May 2011

BΩ/COLORADO COLLEGE

Sally Organ Hughes; 1948, August 2011 Geraldine Fleming Robertson; 1944, June 2011

ΓΔ/GEORGIA

Elizabeth DeGaris Clement; 1946, May 2011

ΓZ/CONNECTICUT

Jeanne Boren Caldwell; 1947, March 2011 Nancy Hill Hyman; 1942, July 2011

TH/MASSACHUSETTS

Elizabeth Johnston Hicks; 1943, September 2011

TI/KENTUCKY

Sara Leegan Lane; 1946, August 2011

TM/MARYLAND

Janice Funk Spann; 1955, August 2011

IN/NORTH DAKOTA STATE

Wilma Husband Burley; 1954, August 2011

ΓΟ/NEW MEXICO

Edith Lehman Davis; 1953, August 2011 Ann Lynn Alford Hatch; 1959, September 2011

ΓΥ/MIAMI

Nancy Stoddard Wood; 1954, December 2010

TX/FRESNO STATE

Carol Sheldon Biedermann; 1957, July 2011 Joyce Heeren Dale; 1953, July 2011 Lenore (Becky) Beck Gilfillan; 1953, August 2011 Linda Gilfillan McAlexander; 1965, April 2011

AI/PUGET SOUND

Martha McKown Brock; 1966, August 2011

ΔY/EASTERN KENTUCKY

Amanda G. Pickrell; 2000, October 2011 ◊

Dates represent year of initiation and month and year of death.



8740 Founders Road | Indianapolis, Indiana 46268

p: 317.876.1870 f: 317.876.1925

www.kappaalphatheta.org

